

Legislature of the Virgin Islands



P.O. BOX 1690
ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS 00802
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The Honorable

Angel Bolques, Jr.

Senator-At-Large

36th Legislature of the Virgin Islands

CHAIRMAN

Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports & Parks

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Committee on Economic Development & Agriculture

MEMBER

Committee of the Whole

Committee on Rules & Judiciary

Committee on Homeland Security, Justice & Public Safety

Committee on Disaster Recovery, Infrastructure & Planning

Sub-Committee on Energy & Infrastructure Development

January 16, 2026

Mr. Hugo Hodge Jr.
Chairman
U.S.V.I. Horseracing Commission
St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

Re: Invitation to Testify – Oversight Hearing on Clinton E. Phipps Racetrack and the Horse Racing Initiative Fund

Dear Mr. Hodge Jr.,

As Chair of the Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, and Parks, I respectfully invite you to testify during an upcoming oversight hearing scheduled for Friday, February 20, 2026, at 10:00 AM at the Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Chamber on St. Croix.

This hearing will assess the operational and regulatory status of the Clinton E. Phipps Racetrack, as well as the fiscal transparency and equity of the Horse Racing Initiative Fund. As Chairman of the U.S.V.I. Horseracing Commission, your participation is critical to informing the Legislature and the public on the following:

- The Commission's oversight responsibilities and role in ensuring regulatory compliance and safety protocols;
- Updates on recent and forthcoming races, permitting activities, and inter-agency coordination;
- The Commission's relationship with licensed racing operators and local horsemen;
- Opportunities for improved oversight, resource equity, and public confidence in horseracing governance.

We kindly request that you submit written testimony and any supporting financial documentation no later than Wednesday, February 18, 2026.

Thank you for your continued service and commitment to horseracing in the Virgin Islands. Should you need further information or have questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office. I look forward to your participation in this important discussion.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Angel Bolques, Jr." in a cursive style.

The Honorable Angel Bolques, Jr.
Chair, Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, and Parks
Senator At Large, 36th Legislature of the Virgin Islands