

# Legislature of the Virgin Islands

P.O. BOX 1690  
ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS 00802  
(340) 693-3571



The Honorable  
**Angel Bolques, Jr.**  
Senator-At-Large  
36<sup>th</sup> 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 23, 2026

Honorable Averil E. George  
Commissioner  
Virgin Islands Department of Human Services  
1303 Hospital Ground  
Knud Hansen Complex, Building A  
St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00802

Re: Invitation to Testify – Aging with Dignity & Bill No. 36-0192

Dear Commissioner George,

As Chair of the Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, and Parks, I respectfully invite you to testify at the Committee hearing scheduled for Friday, March 20, 2026, at the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas.

During Block I (10:00 AM), the Committee will conduct an oversight review entitled "*Aging with Dignity: Oversight of Nursing Homes and CMS Certification Readiness in the Virgin Islands.*" This discussion will focus on the operational conditions of all government and privately operated nursing homes and long-term care facilities, including quality of care, staffing adequacy, infrastructure, occupancy rates, financial sustainability, regulatory compliance, and each facility's status toward CMS certification and federal Conditions of Participation. Particular attention will be given to barriers to Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement and corrective actions necessary to secure sustainable federal funding.

During Block II (1:30 PM – 4:30 PM), the Committee will consider Bill No. 36-0192, an Act amending Title 34, Virgin Islands Code, Chapter 15, to enact the Senior Financial Protection and Promissory Note Abuse Prevention Act of 2025, proposed by Senator Alma Francis Heyliger.

Your testimony is essential as we work to strengthen accountability, elevate care standards, and safeguard the health, dignity, and financial well-being of the Virgin Island's aging community.

Please submit written testimony at least 48 hours prior to the hearing. Should you require further information, please contact my office directly. I look forward to your participation as we work together to ensure dignity, security, and protection for our seniors.

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, Sports and Parks  
Senator At Large, 36<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands