



## 36<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the United States Virgin Islands Committee on Education and Workforce Development

### Agenda **REVISED**

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

10:00 AM

Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room, St. Croix

#### MEMBERS

**Senator Kurt A. Vialet**  
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The Committee will consider proposed legislation as well as receive a status update from the Department of Education regarding redistricting of the Territory's schools.

#### I. Call to Order

#### II. Roll Call

#### III. Opening Remarks

#### IV. Reading of the agenda

#### V. Block I – Redistricting of Virgin Islands Schools and plans for summer maintenance

##### Invited Testifier(s):

- Honorable Dionne Wells-Hedrington, Ed.D., Commissioner  
**Virgin Islands Department of Education**
- Craig Benjamin, Executive Director  
**Bureau of School Construction and Maintenance**
- Kyza A. Callwood, PhD, Chairperson  
**Virgin Islands Board of Education**
- Leontyne Jones, President  
**American Federation of Teachers – St. Thomas/St. John, Local 1825**
- Tamioka Phillipus  
**American Federation of Teachers - St. Croix, Local 1826**

#### VI. Block II - Proposed Legislation

**Bill No. 36-0133** An act amending title 17 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 10, section 111(a)(1) providing mental health education and instruction

**Proposed by:** Milton E. Potter

**Invited Testifier(s):**

- Honorable Dionne Wells-Hedrington, Ed.D., Commissioner  
**Virgin Islands Department of Education**
- Kyza A. Callwood, PhD, Chairperson  
**Virgin Islands Board of Education**
- Honorable Justa Encarnacion, Commissioner  
**Department of Health**
- Dr. Yassin Hall  
Mental Health Advocate, Educator, and Motivational Speaker
- Leontyne Jones, President  
**American Federation of Teachers – St. Thomas/St. John, Local 1825**
- Tamioka Phillipus, President  
**American Federation of Teachers – St. Croix, Local 1826**

**Bill No. 36-0207** An act amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 25, subchapter VI, by adding section 590d and title 24 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 1, by adding section 24 requiring employers to grant parents or legal guardians of a child with a diagnosed disability, two hours per month of paid leave to attend the child’s medical appointments

**Proposed by:** Avery L. Lewis

**Invited Testifier(s):**

- Honorable Gary Molloy, PhD, Commissioner  
**Department of Labor**
- Cindy L. Richardson, Director  
**Division of Personnel**
- Honorable Justa Encarnacion, Commissioner  
**Department of Health**
- Bryan Young, MD, FAAP  
**Partners 4 Kids**

**VII.** Closing Remarks

**VIII.** Adjournment

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**Thank you for your attendance and valuable contributions to the hearing**