



GOVERNMENT OF
THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS
THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET



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May 28, 2025

The Honorable Avery L. Lewis
Senator, 36th Legislature of the Virgin Islands
Capitol Building, Charlotte Amalie, VI 00801

Re: Absence from Hearing on Bill No. 36-0053

Dear Senator Lewis,

I am writing to respectfully inform you that I will be unable to attend today's hearing and provide testimony on Bill No. 36-0053, *An Act amending Title 3, Virgin Islands Code, Chapter 25, Subchapter V, Section 555b*.

Regrettably, I must prioritize responsibilities stemming from the executive order pursuant to *V.I. Code tit. 2, § 24 (2019)*, which mandates the closure of the FY2026 Executive Budget Cycle. As you are aware, this cycle concludes today, Friday, May 30, 2025, and necessitates my full engagement to ensure compliance with statutory requirements and timely completion of the process.

I sincerely regret any inconvenience my absence may cause and greatly appreciate your understanding. Please be rest assured that I remain committed to supporting the legislative process and would welcome the opportunity to provide input on this matter at a later date, should it be deemed appropriate.

Thank you for your continued leadership and consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Julio A. Rhymer Sr.".

Julio A. Rhymer Sr.
Director