



District 9

Daniel Flippo

District Director

Mark Cochran

Assistant to the Director

May 27, 2025

Avery L. Lewis, Senator
36th Legislature of the Virgin Islands
Post Office Box 1690, Capital Building
Charlotte Amalie, VI 00801

Honorable Senator Lewis,

I am in receipt of your email and letter of May 23, 2025, regarding my ability to provide testimony to the Legislature of the Virgin Islands regarding an Act amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 25, subchapter V, section 55b regarding increasing the minimum annual salary for full time employees of the Government of the Virgin Islands, its semi-autonomous agencies and independent instrumentalities as proposed by Senator Kurt A. Violet. Unfortunately, with only a week's notice, which I know is unavoidable in this instance, I have other meetings scheduled in addition to the travel concerns from the mainland to the Island.

That said, the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial, and Service Workers International Union (USW) is totally supportive of and believes that an increase in the minimum annual salary is totally appropriate, necessary, and called for. The members of the USW and all Government workers strive to provide essential services to the citizens of the Virgin Islands, and in this time of rising living costs, an increase of \$4,960 is the least that can be done.

I would appreciate my letter of support to you being entered into the record of your hearing.

Sincerely,

Daniel Flippo, Director
USW District 9