

VIRGIN ISLANDS SIXTH CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

Companion Attachment to Legislative Testimony | October 2026

Purpose and Status

This companion framework aligns the Convention's September 2026 legislative correspondence and supplemental recommendations with the October 19, 2026 testimony. It separates immediate technical and conforming corrections to Section 7 from broader supplemental legislative proposals. None of the recommendations described here is enacted merely by inclusion in this document.

Technical and Conforming Corrections to Section 7 — Immediate Request

Supplemental Legislative Considerations — Separate from Immediate Corrections

Immediate conforming corrections to Sections 7(a), 7(b), and 7(d) → continued drafting and Phase One education → Convention consideration and adoption → submission and applicable federal review → Phase Two education and referendum notice (April 1, 2027) → standalone referendum (July 3, 2027) → election certification and Convention reporting. Any alternative event-triggered schedule requires further legislation.

Section 7(d) — Ballot Counting and Certification: Change the outdated 2024 general-election reference to 2027 and align ballot counting, certification, and related post-referendum procedures with the July 3, 2027 standalone referendum.

Priority	Timing / statutory reference	Legislative consideration
1. Public education and participation	Before final adoption; February 28, 2027 is identified in the supplemental request as the current completion deadline.	Consider expressly authorizing pre-adoption education, public comment, and feedback on proposed provisions, while distinguishing Phase One education from Phase Two education about the adopted Constitution.
2. Federal review	Following completion and appropriate submission of the proposed Constitution; before the referendum under the recommended sequence.	Align the territorial timetable with presidential and congressional consideration under Public Law 94-584, as amended, including review measured in congressional legislative days.
3. Referendum scheduling	April 1, 2027: commencement of statutory referendum notice. July 3, 2027: standalone referendum under the current schedule. Any change requires legislation.	The immediate request is to conform Section 7(b) to the fixed 2027 dates. Separately, the supplemental request proposes possible event-triggered sequencing following applicable federal review; that alternative is not the existing schedule and should be considered only through further legislative action.
4. Certification and reporting	Following the referendum and certification by the appropriate election authorities.	Conform Section 7(d) to 2027; clarify the respective responsibilities of the Elections System of the Virgin Islands for certification and the Convention for announcing and reporting certified results.
5. Constitutional effective date	January 31, 2028 is the existing fixed effective date discussed in the supplemental request, not a historical accomplishment.	Consider tying the effective date to the last day of the fourth month following certification of referendum results; review federal notification requirements.
6. Fiscal authority	September 30, 2026 fiscal authority concern; \$300,000 appropriation under Act No. 9060.	Clarify availability of previously appropriated funds and spending

		authority after September 30, 2026; separately consider the Convention’s requested \$300,000 FY2027 appropriation and any necessary lawful authorization.
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• **April 1, 2027 and July 3, 2027 are the notice-commencement and standalone-referendum dates identified in the final testimony. An event-triggered timetable is a separate supplemental recommendation, not an enacted change.**

• February 28, 2027 is the statutory adoption deadline identified in the testimony. January 31, 2027 is an internal target for an initial consolidated working draft, not a statutory deadline. The fiscal-authority question concerns the period after September 30, 2026.

Key Distinctions for Legislative Review

• The immediate conforming request does not assign new dates to presidential or congressional review, certification, or implementation. Those issues remain subject to applicable law and any subsequent legislative action.

• February 28, 2027 and September 30, 2026 are dates cited in the supplemental request; this framework does not independently establish whether subsequent legislation or appropriations have changed them.

Sources and scope: Convention legislative requests submitted September 13 and September 29, 2026; testimony prepared for October 19, 2026; Act No. 8681 as amended by Act No. 9060. This document distinguishes requests from enacted law and does not itself amend any statute.

• No new calendar dates are assigned to federal review, referendum notice, certification or implementation because those stages depend on legally defined triggering events and further legislative action.

Source and Scope

Source: “Supplemental Request for Amendments to Act No. 8681, as Amended by Act No. 9060,” addressed to Senate President Milton E. Potter, September 2026 (undated day in supplied copy), pp. 1–2. This framework is a summary for legislative discussion, not a substitute for enacted statutory text, the proposed amendment matrix or a formal legal opinion.