

Office of the Senate President
Novelle Francis
St. Thomas St John District

Testimony in regards to Governor Albert Bryan's request to authorize a
Land Swap with the Virgin Islands National Park

Good Afternoon to the Committee of the Whole for your appearance before your constituents to hear this one fact WE WANT A SCHOOL BUT DO NOT SUPPORT THE WHISTLING CAY GIVEAWAY. My name is Lorelei Monsanto and I have been on this issue for at least 3 decades.

Due to lack of time to give history and substance, I requested of the Senate President office to have legal counsel investigate the VI code title 31 section 205, which reads "no portion of a shoreline shall be sold, leased or otherwise disposed of by the Government of the Virgin Islands" The Senate President office wrote back and advised they had no time to render a opinion on this law. That was truly unfortunate to come to a hearing and not have all the information needed to make a decision of this magnitude. I reached out to other members of this body and hope today they took the opportunity to pull the law and review it.

The current administration was given several alternatives on this matter to no avail. The Department of Interior as well as the Regional Director of the National Park were made aware by this writer that the VI code is on the record and this will be an illegal transaction at best.

So with that are you going to honor and uphold the laws of this territory? Please advise the Governor that this body cannot approve this bill. Also, I would request that this body acquire all information on this subject matter before rendering any approvals without concise knowledge of the subject matter.

Respectfully, thank you for your time and I await any questions you may have of me.