

LEGISLATURE OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS




35th Legislature, THE HONORABLE SENATOR DIANE T. CAPEHART

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Chair
Vice Chair
Member

Committee on Rules & Judiciary
Committee on Disaster Recovery & Infrastructure
Committees on Health, Hospitals and Human Services
Committee on Education and Workforce Development
Committee on Economic Development & Agriculture
Subcommittee on Health and Public Safety

TO: All Members, Committee on Rules and Judiciary
Honorable Milton E. Potter, Vice Chairman
Honorable Angel L. Bolques, Jr.
Honorable Kenneth L. Gittens
Honorable Marise C. James
Honorable Franklin D. Johnson
Honorable Carla J. Joseph

FROM: The Honorable Senator Diane T. Capehart 
Chair, Committee on Rules and Judiciary

DATE: May, 2024

RE: Committee on Rules and Judiciary Meeting— Friday, May 24, 2024

The Committee on Rules and Judiciary has scheduled a meeting for **Friday, May 24, 2024, at 12:00 PM in the Frits Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room, St. Croix, Virgin Islands** to consider the following **bills**:

BLOCK I

- Governor's Nomination of Jamila L. Christopher, Representative of Dept. of Tourism, Virgin Islands Cannabis Advisory Board

BLOCK II

Bill No. 35-0121 - An Act amending Virgin Islands Code, title 4, chapter 29, section 482 and title 5, subtitle I, part V, chapter 61, section 660 increasing jury and witness fees and allowances, respectively. **Sponsored by: Senators Novelle E. Francis, Jr., and Diane T. Capehart**

Invited Testifiers

- Regina Petersen, Administrator of Courts
Judiciary of the Virgin Islands
- Attorney Marjorie Whalen, President
Virgin Islands Bar Association
- Attorney Julie Todman, Chief Public Defender
Office of the Territorial Public Defender
- Attorney Ian Clement, Acting Atty. General
Office of the Attorney General
- Attorney Russell Pate
The Pate Law Firm

BLOCK III

Bill No. 35-0174 - An Act repealing and reenacting title 15, Virgin Islands Code, article V parts 1, 2, 3, 4, enacting part 5 and renumbering part 4A as part 6, to repeal the Uniform Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Act and enact the Uniform Guardianship, Conservatorship, and Other Protective Arrangements Act with amendments and for other related purposes *Sponsored by Senators Novelle E. Francis, Jr.*

Invited Testifiers

- Regina Petersen, Administrator of Courts
Judiciary of the Virgin Islands
- Attorney Marjorie Whalen, President
Virgin Islands Bar Association
- Attorney Julie Todman, Chief Public Defender
Office of the Territorial Public Defender
- Troy Schuster, VI State Director
American Association of Retired Persons
- Attorney Tom Bolt,
Uniform Law Commissioner
- Shelby King-Gaddy, Esq., Executive Director
Legal Services of the Virgin Islands
- Averil George, Commissioner Designee
VI Department of Human Services

BLOCK IV

Bill No. 35-0030 - An Act honoring and commending Vaughn Benjamin posthumously for his contributions to reggae music in the Virgin Islands and the global communities; appropriating \$45,000 to the Department of Sports, Parks and Recreation for the design and construction of the “Vaughn Benjamin Monument” and naming the waterfront park west of the Marley Homes “The Vaughn ‘Akae Beka’ Memorial Park”. *Sponsored by: Senators Novelle E. Francis, Jr., Angel L. Bolques, Jr., Carla J. Joseph and Samuel Carrion*

Bill No. 35-0215 - An Act amending title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 5, section 457, subsection (a), paragraph (3), relating to the contents of a firearm license to change the statement in the license increasing the term of the license from three years to five years. *Sponsored By Senator Milton E. Potter*

Bill No. 35-0238 - An Act to confer peace officer status on qualified enforcement officers employed by the Government Employees Retirement System of the Virgin Islands. *Sponsored by Senators Milton E. Potter and Angel L. Bolques, Jr*

Cc: All Senators
All Chiefs of Staff
All Divisions
Public Affairs
Media