

Senator Saraauw

QUARTERLY REPORT: APRIL - JUNE



Culture Shock

Committee on Rules and
Judiciary

Protect the Coral Reefs

Committees:

Chair Rules and Judiciary

Vice Chair Health, Hospitals and Human Services

Education & Workforce Development

Youth, Sports, Parks & Recreation

Finance

Liaison to the White House



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Janelle K. Sarauw was re-elected to the 33rd Legislature on November 6, 2018. Senator Sarauw, has penned into legislation bills that support youth development, encourage workforce development, and propel the Territory forward. Her signature legislation, the State Apprenticeship bill, became law during the 32nd Legislature. The bill amends the VI Code related to apprenticeship standards, authorizing and mandating the Department of Labor to promulgate regulations pursuant to becoming a recognized State Apprentice Agency. This means more job opportunities for the youth of the Virgin Islands. Senator Sarauw's ultimate outlook however, is the overall opportunities and quality of life afforded to the VI populace. Throughout her term, Senator Sarauw has also proposed and stated her position regarding controversial bills on the environment, economic development, education, probate, expungement, and was the primary sponsor of the Division of Festival, now law.

Born in St. Thomas, USVI, Senator Sarauw attended Florida Atlantic University on a full volleyball scholarship earning a Bachelor of Arts with majors in Political Science with a concentration in Global Governance; Interdisciplinary Studies of Social Science and a minor in History. She holds a Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership with a certificate in Servant Leadership from Gonzaga University and is a U.S. Government Certified Grant Writer. Senator Sarauw was also honored by Under 35 emerging leaders, NBC News Out, keynote speaker at the Victory Fund LGBTQ Conference 2018, inducted as an honorary member of the Golden Key Honour Society and many other civic awards.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janelle K. Sarauw'. The signature is stylized and fluid, written over a white background.

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OVERVIEW

In the second quarter, the cultural anticipation builds as Culture Shock makes their final preparation for their grand debut.

In the Legislature, a shift in the majority would see Senator Sarauw Chair the Rules and Judiciary Committee and the bill banning oxybenzone sunscreen would successfully pass out of Session, a definite benefit to the Virgin Islands environment.

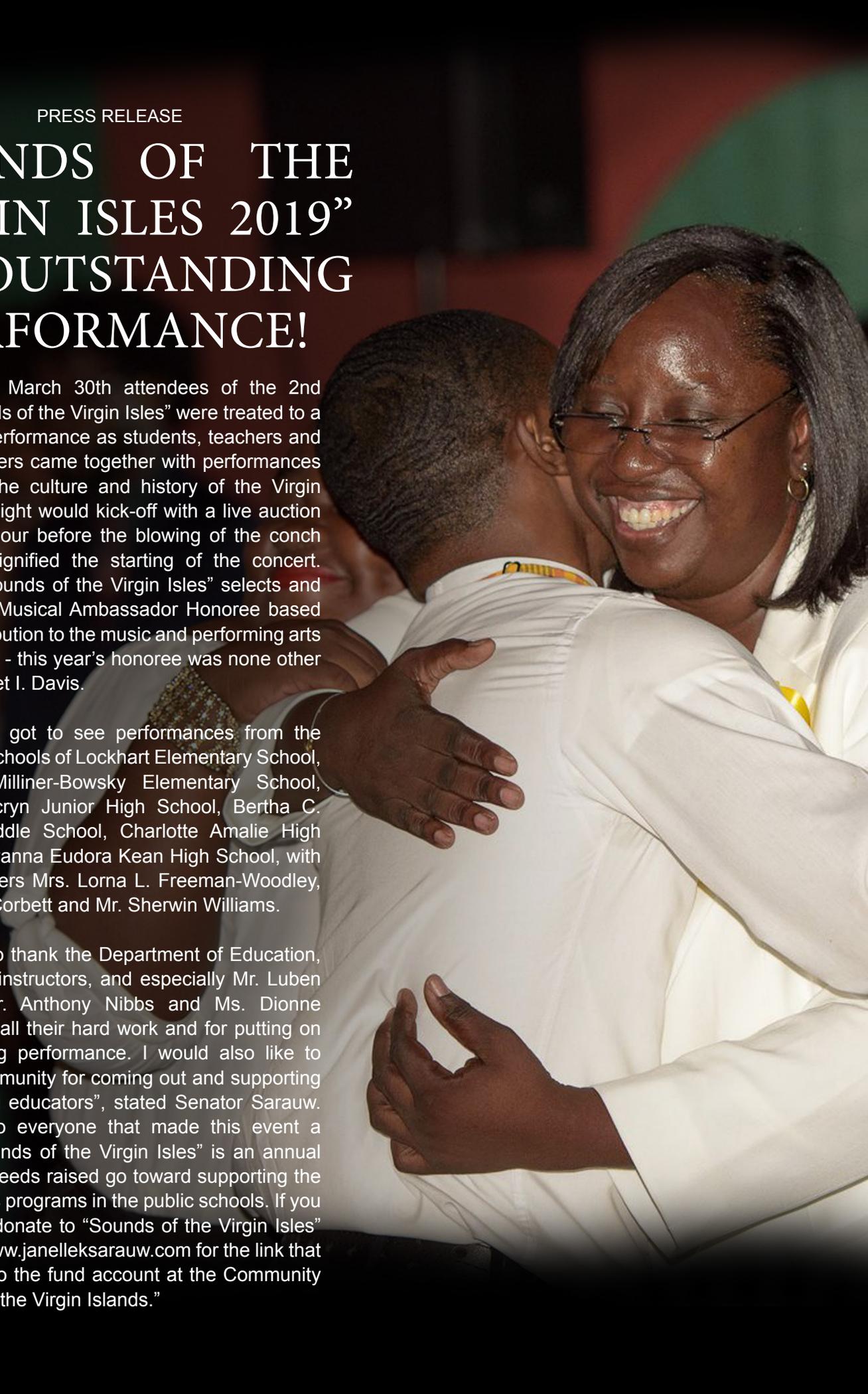
PRESS RELEASE

“SOUNDS OF THE VIRGIN ISLES 2019” AN OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE!

On Saturday, March 30th attendees of the 2nd annual “Sounds of the Virgin Isles” were treated to a spectacular performance as students, teachers and guest performers came together with performances that echoed the culture and history of the Virgin Islands. The night would kick-off with a live auction and cocktail hour before the blowing of the conch shell which signified the starting of the concert. Each year “Sounds of the Virgin Isles” selects and recognizes a Musical Ambassador Honoree based on their contribution to the music and performing arts in the Territory - this year’s honoree was none other than Ms. Monet I. Davis.

The audience got to see performances from the participating schools of Lockhart Elementary School, Yvonne E. Milliner-Bowsky Elementary School, Addelita Cancryn Junior High School, Bertha C. Boschulte Middle School, Charlotte Amalie High School, and Ivanna Eudora Kean High School, with guest performers Mrs. Lorna L. Freeman-Woodley, Mr. Terrence Corbett and Mr. Sherwin Williams.

“I would like to thank the Department of Education, our students, instructors, and especially Mr. Luben L. Daniel, Mr. Anthony Nibbs and Ms. Dionne Donadelle for all their hard work and for putting on a mesmerizing performance. I would also like to thank the community for coming out and supporting our youth and educators”, stated Senator Sarauw. “Thank you to everyone that made this event a success. “Sounds of the Virgin Isles” is an annual event, all proceeds raised go toward supporting the music and arts programs in the public schools. If you would like to donate to “Sounds of the Virgin Isles” please visit www.janelleksarauw.com for the link that will take you to the fund account at the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands.”



APRIL 3RD

Apprenticeship update

Photo Credit: Legislature Public Affairs



One of the bills Senator Sarauw holds close to her heart is the passage of the Apprenticeship bill that was passed in the 32nd Legislature.

The bill mandates that the Department of Labor promulgate regulations providing that contracts between the Government of the Virgin Islands and private firms include a provision requiring that those private firms hire apprentices, with first preference to veterans.

In an update from the Department of Labor during the Committee on Education and Workforce Development, Commissioner Gary Malloy and his team informed the Senator that there was no real movement as the correspondence was assumed misplaced in the transition of the new commissioner. Hence, funding was not identified and utilized.

Senator Sarauw expressed great concern with the lack of continuity on important initiatives such as these; there is no real excuse for the lack of execution on apprenticeship.

APRIL 6TH

Culture Shock on the Waterfront

In preparation for the Children’s Parade, Culture Shock took to the St. Thomas Waterfront for their first Stilt-a-thon! The troupe made their way down the Waterfront dancing and building up their strength for what was going to be a memorable experience. Thank you coach Vivanne and VI Port Authority for the support!

Also later on in the month, Culture Shock would participate in the Tom Joyner/WICO parade and the Cultural Day activities held at Emancipation Garden as the troupe entertained locals and visitors to the islands.



APRIL 7TH

Golden Key International Honor Society

The Golden Key International Honor Society inducted Senator Sarauw as an Honorary Member based on her commitment to education and her display of service and leadership.

Senator Sarauw is humbled and grateful to receive this honor.

About Golden Key: “Golden Key International Honour Society is the premiere honor society for outstanding students nationally and internationally. Through Golden Key, members realize their full potential and personal growth, ensuring that outstanding academic performance flourishes into outstanding careers and lives. Because of who they are, Golden Key members are highly regarded and sought after by many prestigious employers and institutions.” (www.uvi.edu)



APRIL 16TH

Griffith Park reopen

Senator Sarauw, a Division I athlete, former coach and former Coordinator for the Virgin Islands Department of Sports, Parks, and Recreation, knows all too well the benefits of sports and productive recreation on the overall development of the youth. Senator Sarauw attended the opening of the remodeled Emile Griffith Park and would like to congratulate the Department of Sports, Parks, and Recreation and all who contributed on a job well done.





**OFFICE OF
SENATOR SARAUW
FINANCIAL REPORT**

EXPENDITURES

LINE ITEM	DESCRIPTION	MONTHLY \$	YTD
TRAVEL (AIR/HOTEL*)	[Senator] [Staff]	\$115.00	\$1,476.00
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT		\$0	\$0
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	Internet/Cable, Maintenance	\$726.16	\$2,421.88
OFFICE SUPPLIES	Paper, envelopes, pens, pencils, binders, folders, etc	\$12.00	\$138.32
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	Printing Committee Expenditures	\$164.08	\$1,355.37
MISC	Caribbean Fisheries Management Council meeting in Puerto Rico	\$952.80	\$9,788.95
Total		\$1,970.04	\$15,180.52

33rd Legislature of the Virgin Islands
Office of the Honorable Janelle K Sarauw
2019 April Financial Report

MAY 1ST

FAU Distinguished Alumni



On March 29th, Senator Sarauw received correspondence from her alma matter, Florida Atlantic University, that she was selected for the 2019 Distinguished Alumna for the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts & Letters.

Each year the FAU Alumni Association hosts this special event which recognizes an outstanding alumna/us from each College for their professional achievement. The Senator was nominated by Dr. Kevin Wagner, Chair of the Department of Political Science and the Dean, Dr. Michael Horswell made the final selection.

This year the event was held on May 1st on the Boca Raton campus. Although the Senator was not able to physically attend, the university highlighted her and her accomplishments during the ceremony and played the Senator's acceptance video.

One of the questions posed to Senator Sarauw was about how her experiences at FAU impacted her life, which the Senator stated the following:

"[Politicians] assess the distribution of power and resources, build relationships with other stakeholders and make decisions that can have great impact on the wellbeing of a nation and its people. It was at Florida Atlantic University that I learned leadership in the political framework requires a focus on the long-term good of a country, above and ahead of any personal short-term gains. I incorporate these teachings daily in my political career. For this, I want to say thank you to the staff at FAU."

Senator Sarauw is humbled and honored by the recognition.

MAY 3RD

Culture Shock on the road!

Well the anticipated day had arrived! It was finally time for Culture Shock to become part of Virgin Islands Carnival History. All the hard work and commitment finally came together as the troupe made their way up the road in celebration of the 2019 Children's Parade.

This year the troupe paid tribute to culture bearer Alvin "Alli" Paul and his contributions to the mocko jumbie artform.

The troupe was first established to revitalize and bring awareness to the cultural art form of the mocko jumbie and to provide an outlet for the youth through the performing arts. The outpouring support and embracement from the community spoke volumes as the children practiced and showed their routines.

Members of Culture Shock danced, entertained, and engaged the crowd while spectators cheered and encouraged the group.

In the words of Pressure Buss Pipe, "Do it and Done," what better way to add to the accomplishments of the troupe than to take home WINNER for troupes under 50! We are so proud of our kids! They worked hard and so did our parents.

Special thanks to our dedicated instructors Arsenio, Kalamis and Vivianne! And thank you to all who supported the vision and saw it through to fruition. Thank you to our seamstresses Ms. Laverne Blyden, Ms. Migdalia Feliciano and Ms. Lurlene Gerard. Thank you to Senator Jackson for his support and presence. A heartfelt thank you to our sponsors and to everyone that shared an encouraging word, liked our pics or videos, and cheered us on!

This is just the beginning as Virgin Islanders would have the opportunity to see the young performers again at various events, particularly the upcoming St. John Festival.



**Troupes
Under 50
Winner:**

**CultureShock
Mocko
Jumbies
854pts**



Day 1 Legislative Session May 14, 2019

During the first day of Legislative Session, Senator Sarauw made it clear where she stood when it came to nominations.

At the end of the day, nominees should be selected on their qualifications and ability to push the Territory forward.

“I rise in support of most of the nominees... the nomination process is a rigorous and probing process. Nothing in the nomination process is personal. Votes that are cast are for the greater good. And as a Senator, as a very cerebral senator, my decisions are made based on the information before me and the investigations that I have done.” stated the Senator.

Senator Sarauw’s vote for the nominees for the Commissioners and Directors of various agencies is provided on the next page.

MAY 14TH

Senator Sarauw's vote

- Honorable Kathleen Mackay** - Judge, Superior Court of the Virgin Islands: **NO**
- Honorable Douglas A. Brady** - Judge, Superior Court of the Virgin Islands: **YES**
- Honorable Jessica Gallivan** - Judge, Superior Court of the Virgin Islands: **YES**
- Honorable Debra Watlington** - Judge, Superior Court of the Virgin Islands: **YES**
- Mr. Kirk Callwood** - Commissioner, Department of Finance: **YES**
- Mrs. Denise George-Counts, Esq.** - Attorney General, Department of Justice: **YES**
- Ms. Jenifer C. O'Neal** - Director, Office of Management and Budget: **YES**
- Mrs. Racquel Berry-Benjamin** - Commissioner, Department of Education: **NO**
- Mr. Nelson Petty, Jr. P.E.** - Commissioner, Department of Public Works: **YES**
- Mr. Anthony Thomas** - Commissioner, Department of Property and Procurement: **YES**
- Mr. Joseph B. Boschulte** - Commissioner, Department of Tourism: **YES**
- Mr. Positive T.A. Nelson** - Commissioner, Department of Agriculture: **YES**
- Mr. Gary Molloy** - Commissioner, Department of Labor: **YES**
- Ms. Justa Encarnacion** - Commissioner, Department of Health: **YES**
- Mr. Jean-Pierre Oriol** - Commissioner, Dept. of Planning and Natural Resources: **ABSENT**
- Ms. Dayne M. Clendinen** - Director, Virgin Islands Division of Personnel: **YES**
- Ms. Joss N. Springette, Esq.** - Chief Negotiator, Office of Collective Bargaining: **YES**
- Mr. Joel Lee** - Director, Bureau of Internal Revenue: **NOT VOTING**
- Mr. Daryl A. George** - Director, Virgin Islands Revenue: **YES**
- Ms. Barbara Jackson McIntosh** - Director, Bureau of Motor Vehicles: **YES**
- Ms. Wynnie Testamark** - Director, Bureau of Corrections: **YES**
- Ms. Leona E. Smith** - Member, Virgin Islands Port Authority Governing Board: **YES**



Day 2 Legislative Session May 15, 2019

It was Day 2 of the Legislative Session. On the Agenda were Bills No. 33-0006, 33-0014, 33-0070, 33-0067, and 33-0032.

Bill No. 33-0006 - An Act amending title 20 Virgin Islands Code, part II, chapter 37, subchapter II, section 407 relating to taxi medallions to prohibit veterans who obtain taxi medallions at auction from selling the medallion to a person who is not a veteran.

Bill No. 33-0014 - An Act amending section 13 of Act No. 7261 to increase the annual appropriation from the Internal Revenue Matching Fund to the Government Employees Retirement System from \$7,000,000 to \$10,000,000 and to allocate 60 percent of the appropriation to pay outstanding employer contributions and 40 percent as a direct contribution.

Bill No. 33-0070 - An Act authorizing the Governor of the Virgin Islands to secure a revolving credit facility in an amount not to exceed \$80,000,000 to pay service providers, pending the receipt and disbursement of funds, and to pay other outstanding obligations.

Bill No. 33-0067 - An Act amending title 19, chapter 34 of the Virgin Islands Code to extend the time within which the Cannabis Advisory Board must propose Rules and Regulations for implementation of the chapter.

Legislative Session Continued

Bill No. 33-0032 - An Act amending title 3, chapter 33, section 881a of the Virgin Islands Code to require the Office of Management and Budget, the Department of Finance, and the Bureau of Information and Technology to establish an official internet website by June 1, 2020, which would provide the public with user-friendly access to financial information, to add more items to the list of required contents of the database and add to the responsibilities of the Office of Management on Budget, Department of Finance and Bureau of Information and Technology.

The bills would be heard and passed during Session however before Bill No. 33-0032 could be voted on a motion for BR# 19-0484 would be brought to the floor by Majority Leader Senator Blyden.

BR# 19-0484, which became Bill No.33-0081, A Resolution reorganizing and reestablishing the Majority Caucus, electing the officers, appointing the chairpersons, vice-chairpersons and members of the standing committees of the Thirty-Third Legislature.

Senate President Senator Gittens went into recess and ended Session once learning the contents of the BR stating the motion was out of order. However, under the chairmanship of Senator Barnes, the Senators would be called back into Session to finish the day's business.



UVI Graduation

The University of the Virgin Islands hosted its 2019 Commencement Ceremonies on Thursday, May 16, on the grounds of the Albert A. Sheen Campus on St. Croix and on Friday, May 17, in the Sports and Fitness Center on the St. Thomas Campus.

Senator Sarauw would like to extend congratulations to all the graduates on both campuses.

“I look forward to seeing and hearing about the continuous achievements set by our graduates,” stated Senator Sarauw.

Protect our coral reefs!

On Monday May 20, 2019, the Committee on Government Operations, Consumer and Veteran Affairs will hear Bill No 33-0043, an Act amending title 27, chapter 9 of the Virgin Islands Code by adding a section providing for a ban on the retail sale or offer for sale, and the distribution or importation for retail purposes of topical sunscreen products containing oxybenzone and octinoxate, sponsored by Senators Marvin A. Blyden and Janelle K. Sarauw, and co-sponsored by Senator Jevan E. James, Sr.

“As we forge forward with stronger and more resilient buildings, roadways and technological infrastructures in the Virgin Islands, I am very mindful to include measures that protect the natural playground of both our children and tourists alike – the beaches; as well as one of our economical ways of life – fishing for sale and food” states Senator Sarauw.

Senator Sarauw has been working very closely with colleague Senator Blyden, governmental environmental agencies, environmentalists, and environmental organizations, reviewing numerous research and studies that have explicitly shown how the use of sunscreen containing the chemicals oxybenzone and octinoxate are not only harmful to your health – the chemicals are absorbed by the skin and have been measured in the blood, breast milk and urine, but also harmful to the oceanic ecosystem because of its toxicity to our corals and other marine life. “We must protect our coral system and marine life – the very things that bring visitors to our beautiful islands and support our economy. It is time we stopped the toxic sunscreen burn - a measure Island Green has been advocating for since 2016 - and pave the way toward comprehensive sustainability,” states Mr. Harith Wickrema, President of Islands Green Living Association.

“I am pleased to offer this critically important piece of legislation. The protection of our marine environment and coral reefs is not just protecting our national patrimony, it is also protecting our economy. I am especially gratified to have had the opportunity to work in partnership with Senator Sarauw and with a number of community organizations and the University of the Virgin Islands on this important piece of legislation. I believe it will help to ensure that our coral reefs remain healthy and a viable tourist attraction for generations to come.” states Senator Blyden.

Many other Caribbean islands and places like Key West and Hawaii have already implemented bans on the reef damaging toxic sunscreens. Scientists studying the effects of these chemicals on reefs have stated that “about 90% of the reefs in the Caribbean have disappeared since 1980”.

“We want to encourage a healthier and safer alternative in the use of natural sunscreen, but we also have to be aggressive in saving our reefs now by banning harmful sunscreen – that is our responsibility. I will continue to champion and collaborate on measures that protect and/or reverse the harm done to our environment. A cleaner Virgin Islands, both in the health of its people and spaces, only serves to benefit us all!” states Senator Sarauw.

###

MAY 20TH

Committee on Government Operations, Consumer Affairs, Energy, Environment and Planning



UPDATE: Bill No. 33-0043 passed successfully out of the Committee to be heard and vetted in the Committee on Rules and Judiciary. The bill banning oxybenzone and octinoxate sunscreens comes a step closer to becoming law, which will be beneficial to the survival of the Virgin Islands coral reefs and ecosystem.

With the expected passage of the bill, the Territory will be joining Hawaii and Florida in the fight to protect the coral reefs.

MAY 22ND

Senior Mock Session

Every year the Legislature and Department of Human Services gives elders in the community the opportunity to sit as a Senator during a mock Session. Each acting Senator vets a proposed bill on that day but also gets the opportunity to discuss their concerns with their Senator which they shadow.

Mrs. Ruby Todman-George represented the Senator and vetted Bill No. 33-0000, an Act amending title 34, chapter 15, section 452 of the Virgin Islands Code relating to elder abuse by including overbilling and misbilling as an offenses under financial abuse; including businesses and government agencies as public guardians; and requiring that preferential treatment be given to any person age sixty (60) or over, disabled, or pregnant.

“Mrs. Todman-George represented well and they all did a fantastic job!” stated Senator Sarauw.



MAY 23RD

Telecommunications Update

I met with the Regional Vice President of External & Legislative Affairs for AT&T. In short AT&T will:

- 1) Build 5 new cell sites: 3 on STX (East, Middle and West). 1 on STJ (Coral Bay). 1 on STT (West).
- 2) Build a fiber network with much of it being underground (improving resiliency). 30 million has been allocated for this. The project will last 3-5 years. The end result would also be 5G.
- 3) Build new microsites. This will also improve First Net. First Net is exclusive to first responders. AT&T has the exclusive contract to address First Net which is an act by Congress.

Overall, with continued communication and collaboration, our telecommunication services will improve.

MAY 26TH

Division of Festival Explained

“The Division of Festivals bill is just not about partying. It’s about diversifying the economy instead of taxing citizens all the time. It’s about being creative in how we generate new sources of revenue. It is not the end all to our economic woes, but the newly established Division’s intent is to add another revenue source. In order to fix roads, give raises, issue tax checks on time, the government coffers need money. Many of you will be flocking to the BVI to listen to Bujú. That’s exactly the intent of the Division of Festivals; to lure people to our shores through our culture and music. Bujú cannot come on American shores for a while, but the concept is what I’m highlighting. U.S. Virgin Islanders and others around the world are headed to stimulate the BVI’s economy the weekend of June 14-16. Other islands get it. They understand how it adds to their economy. It’s called VISION! However, some of us look at it as a partying bill and the administration doesn’t even support the bill as highlighted in his interview and on many other occasions. Yet, the Lt. Gov voted for the same Festival bill as it passed the Senate unanimously. This is why the dragging of our feet in moving things into place for STX 19/2020 Festival.” - Senator Sarauw





**OFFICE OF
SENATOR SARAUW
FINANCIAL REPORT**

EXPENDITURES

LINE ITEM	DESCRIPTION	MONTHLY \$	YTD
TRAVEL (AIR/HOTEL*)	[Senator] [Staff]	\$769.68	\$2,245.68
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT		\$0	\$0
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	Internet/Cable, Maintenance	\$10.43	\$2,432.31
OFFICE SUPPLIES	Paper, envelopes, pens, pencils, binders, folders, etc	\$246.43	\$384.75
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	Printing Committee Expenditures	\$0	\$1,355.37
MISC		\$0	\$9,788.95
Total		\$1,026.54	\$16,207.06

33rd Legislature of the Virgin Islands
Office of the Honorable Janelle K Sarauw
2019 May Financial Report

Happy Pride Month

As a young, black, female professional who happens to be a lesbian, the greatest levels of bigotry and discrimination I have received didn't come from whites because I was black. It came from my own because of my orientation. My journey has not been and is still not easy. I just don't complain and look for self pity. I was once the stone the builders rejected. It didn't matter how smart, talented and educated I was. None of that mattered. My own only saw gay and that I was an abomination. Every election year it gets extra crazy as if who I am is some new discovery. The gay and lesbian comments, the memes, because I don't wear skirts and makeup, the conclusion is I think I'm a man and the list goes on. Somehow we come up with the crazy and totally ignorant misperception that because one is gay or lesbian, they will like little girls and boys. (It's amazing how we CARELESSLY associate sexual orientation with being a pedophile. They are starkly different).

As an elected leader, I don't get to pick and choose who I serve. I must fight for a better quality of life for the Christian, Rasta, Jew, Muslim, atheist, Buddhist, bigot, racist, the intolerant. Ones gender, age, belief, orientation did not matter when my team and I worked from sunup to sundown giving aid for months after the storms. I still have to assist the people who launched the nastiest attacks on me - who at some point end up in my office desperate and in dire need. This is the irony of the world. I find it amusing that ones orientation no longer matters when you're purchasing Gucci, Luis Vuitton, Dolce & Gabbana, Armani, Tom Ford, Jean-Paul Gaultier, Marc Jacobs, Michael Kors, Yves Saint Laurent, Jason Wu, Christian Louboutin as none of the above are heterosexuals. When a gunshot wound victim is in need of immediate surgery do you run a query to see if the doctor is gay? Do you have time to ask the officer who is trying to save your life if they're gay? When you are facing a life sentence and the attorney successfully pulls through an acquittal, do you care if he or she is gay? At the point of desperate need, do you run a test on someone's sexual preference and then decide you'll take death because the person is a homosexual? I think not.

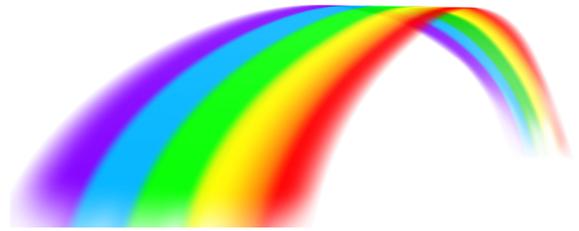
Pride Month Continued

Please note: no LGBTQ person will intentionally choose a hard life and difficult road. Some of us are innately who we are and no amount of prayer, holy water, attacks will change that. I understand and empathize with others who are coming out. It is true, who feels it, knows it. The constant attacks and hurt that if no mental and emotional healing is done can create an angry, bitter, bombastic LGBTQ person. One day (maybe when I'm retired), I will take time from my busy schedule to pen my story, because I have one hell of a story that may bring many to tears.

In closing, please be tolerant. Intolerance has been the root of EVERY war. Our fears and inability to understand or accept what is different, what does not fit into our category of "normal" cripples us. I'm not asking for acceptance. I'm asking that we offer respect.

To those struggling, it is okay to seek therapy if the journey becomes too much. Stand firm and to "thine ownself, be true." Walk, believe, own and work your purpose. You will one day be the stone the builders cannot reject, but will have to eventually use to build. Have a productive week to all.

Sincerely,
-JKS



"Congratulations to all our graduating students! Go forth and be GREAT!" - Sen. Sarauw

ARE YOU PREPARED?



HURRICANE SURVIVAL GUIDE



Supply Kit Checklist

Water

- One gallon of drinking water per person per day for 14 days
- One gallon of water for each person per day for cooking and personal hygiene
- Don't forget water for your pets

Ice

- Freeze water in zip-type freezer bags and two-liter soda jugs
- Fill coolers with ice. Ice can be used to preserve food once the power goes out

Food

- Non-perishable packaged or canned food to last 14 days
- Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits and vegetables
- Canned or boxed juice
- Canned or boxed milk
- Cereal
- Soup
- Peanut butter and jelly, granola bars, trail mix
- Powdered coffee or tea
- Bread, crackers and cookies
- Raw Vegetables
- Fresh fruit
- Special Food for babies and the elderly

For The Home

- Cooler for ice and food storage

- Flashlights with extra batteries or hand-crank flashlights
- Battery or solar powered lanterns
- Battery Powered NOAA Weather radio with extra batteries or hand-crank radio
- Car charger for mobile phone
- Battery operated digital TV with car charger adapter
- Grill with extra propane, charcoal, or sterno (Outdoor Use Only)
- Matches in waterproof container or butane starter for grill
- Paper plates/bowls/cups, plastic eating utensils, napkins, paper towels, moist towelettes
- Manual can opener and bottle opener
- Cleaning supplies
- Non-scented liquid household chlorine bleach or water purification tablets
- Work gloves
- Duct tape
- Heavy-duty outdoor extension cords
- Waterproof tarps
- Plastic sheeting
- Rope
- Basic tool kit
- Corded phone
- Smoke detectors
- Carbon-monoxide detectors

- Two-way radio if power, terrestrial telephone and cell towers fail
- Fire extinguisher
- Waterproof container or re-sealable plastic bag to store important papers like insurance, medical, bank, or Social Security documents/numbers

Health Essentials

- First Aid Kit
- Two weeks supply of prescription drugs
- Two weeks supply of vitamins
- Over the counter pain reliever
- Antibacterial hand soap
- Toilet paper
- Plastic garbage bags
- Mosquito repellent
- Sunscreen
- Toiletries/Hygiene items

For Your Pet

- Non-perishable food
- Water
- Medications
- Documentation, license



JUNE 3RD - 4TH Clinton Foundation



In the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, the Territory saw various groups and organization willing to help in the recovery efforts of the natural disaster. The Clinton Foundation first came in 2017 and returned on different occasions to help in the process. Senators and other stakeholders were invited to the forum held at the University of the Virgin Islands for updates from the foundation.

The Clinton Foundation was established on the belief that everyone deserves a chance to succeed, everyone has a responsibility to act, and we all do better when we work together. More information about the organization can be found at: www.clintonfoundation.org

Photo Credit: Dale Morton



JUNE 4TH DSPR Vans Delivered

The Department of Sports, Parks and Recreation received 5 vans through legislation sponsored by Senator Sarauw, which was unanimously passed by the members of the 32nd Legislature. Two vans were delivered to St. Croix, two vans for St. Thomas, and one for St. John.



JUNE 5TH

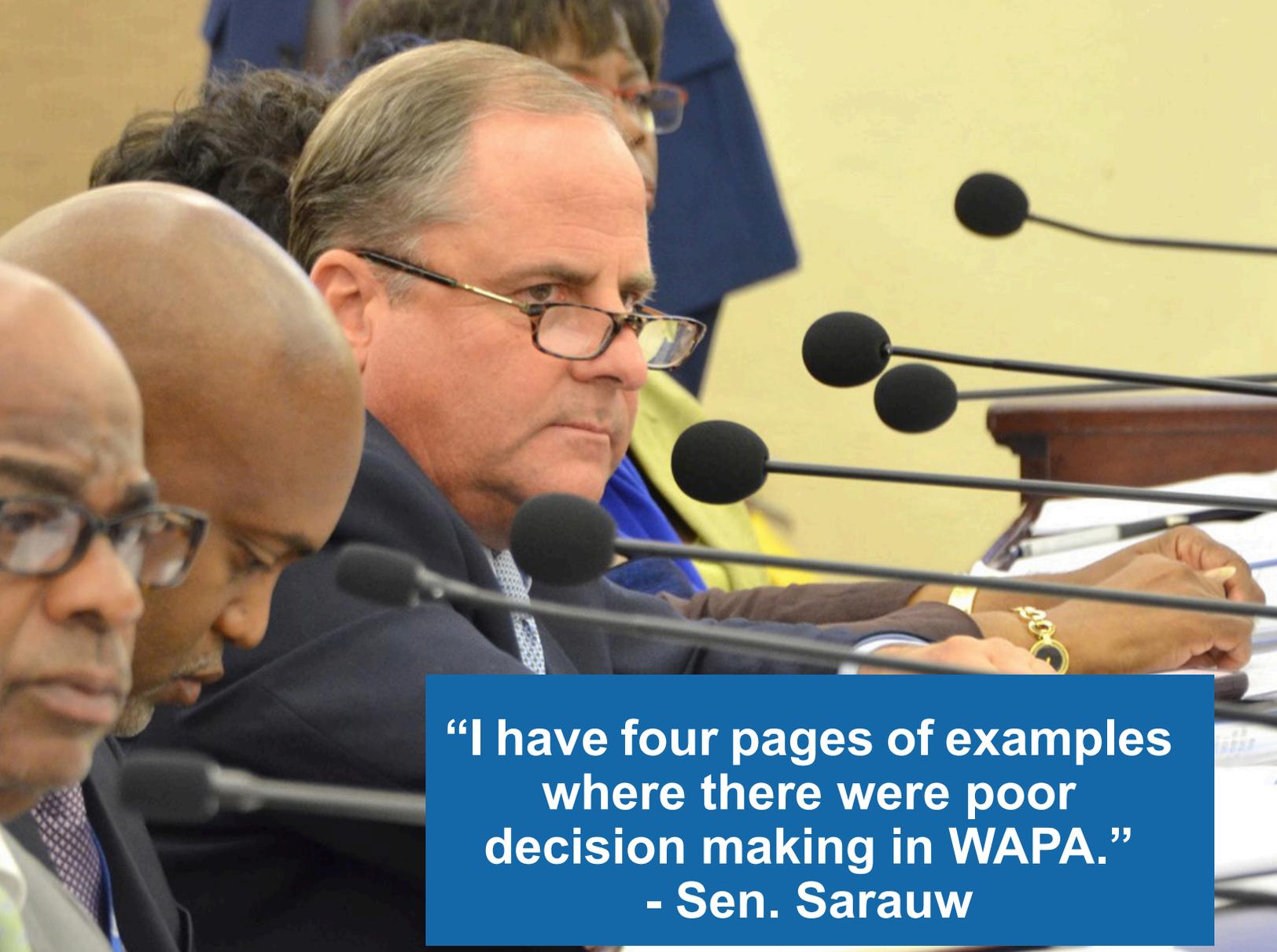
Legislative Session

On the agenda would be the questionable Bill No. 33-0072, An Act appropriating \$39,467,909 that was awarded to the Virgin Islands Medical Assistance Program as a result of a multi-year account reconciliation and review of several of the Territory's health care agencies to various governmental entities. The question at hand would be the appropriate distribution of the awarded funds.

The Legislative Session resolved into a Committee of the Whole to hear testimony from the stakeholders affected by the Bill. Testifiers would include the Frederiksted Health Care, Inc., Department of Human Services, Juan F. Luis Hospital, WAPA, St. Thomas East End Medical Center, Schneider Regional, OMB, and VIWMA.

The focus however, would shift to the urgency of the matter facing WAPA. WAPA came before the Committee in hopes that the Senators would hear their plea and release monies to the agency to pay the debt owed by the hospitals. VITOL, based on WAPA's testimony, threatened to cut off services unless the agency made the payments owed to them. This would have a great impact on the Territory as the islands would face days without WAPA services.

Senators grilled WAPA representatives about the apparent carelessness and mismanagement of funds by the agency. Yes, it is a fact that the Government of the Virgin Islands owes WAPA but the agency itself has made questionable decisions in the operation of the facility. Case in point, a fuel spill that was made aware during Session that was not reported, the purchase of a 4 million dollar unit that was not used but was put into storage incurring storage fees only to be sold as scrap for \$10,000 and the 2.3 million wire transfer of monies to an offshore account by "mistake."

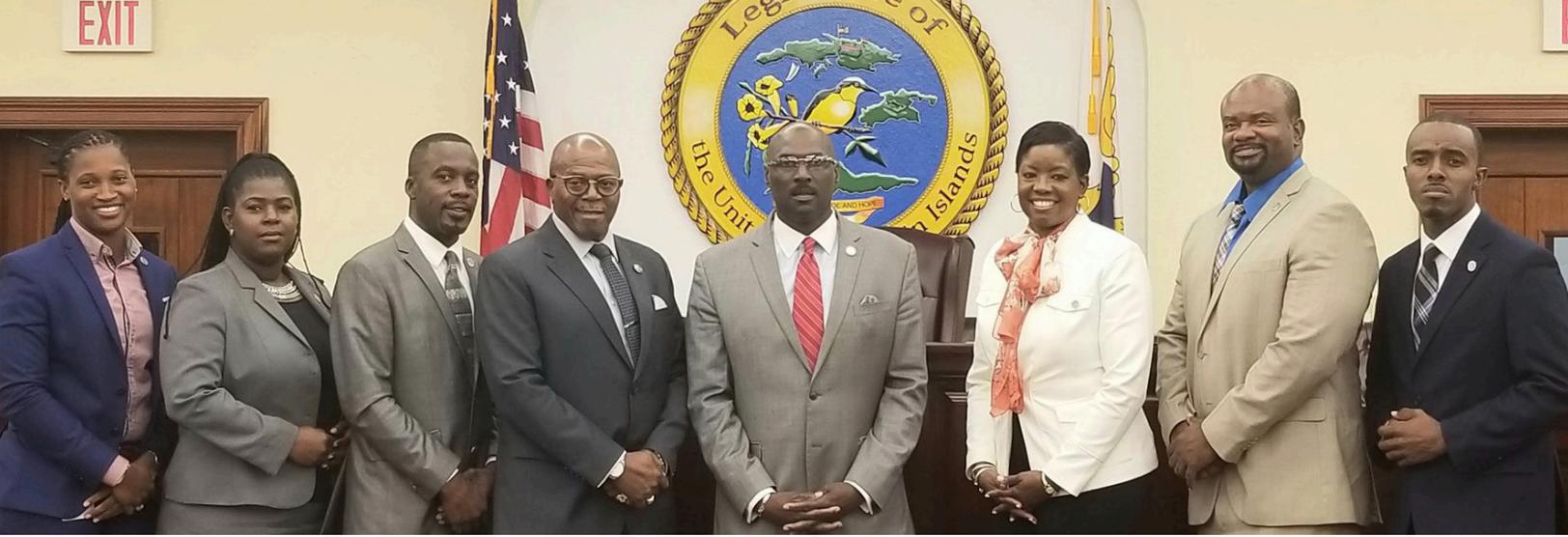


**“I have four pages of examples where there were poor decision making in WAPA.”
- Sen. Sarauw**

“I have four pages of examples where there were poor decision making in WAPA. And we are going to draft legislation today to pay off the hospital debt to WAPA. But WAPA, the decisions have been unconscionable and it has been wrong on the backs of the tax payers.” stated Senator Sarauw.

To address the issues presented by the testifiers, the Committee of the Whole went back into Legislative Session to motion Bill No. 33-0072. Senator Violet would motion the Bill to be sent to the Committee on Rules and Judiciary for further amendments and to be seconded by Senator Jackson with a vote of 15 yeas.

Before the end of Session, Majority Leader Senator Blyden would also motion for BR 19-0527 to be given a bill number and special order it to the floor to be placed on the agenda. The motion passed and the bill known as #33-0089 would establish the new majority with the vote of 9 yeas 6 no.



JUNE 5TH

Bill No. 33-0089 - New Majority

A Resolution reorganizing and reestablishing the Majority Caucus, electing the officers, appointing the chairpersons, vice-chairpersons and members of the standing committees of the Thirty-Third Legislature, and revising and readopting the Rules of the Thirty-Third Legislature.

The officers of the 33rd Legislature are as follows:

Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr. is elected **President**.

Senator Myron D. Jackson is elected **Vice-President**.

Senator Alicia V. Barnes is elected **Secretary**.

Senator Marvin A. Blyden is elected **Majority Leader**.

Senator Myron D. Jackson is elected **Secretary for Intergovernmental and Territorial Affairs**.

Senator Allison L. DeGazon is elected **Liaison to the United States Congress**.

Senator Alicia V. Barnes is elected **Liaison to the United States Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs**.

Senator Janelle K. Sarauw is elected **Liaison to the White House**.

The 33rd Legislature's standing committee chairs are as follows:

Committee on Rules and Judiciary Chair: Senator Janelle K. Sarauw

Vice-Chair: Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr.

Committee on Finance Chair: Senator Kurt A. Viallet Vice Chair: Senator Marvin A. Blyden

Committee on Government Operations, Consumer Affairs, Energy, Environment, and Planning Chair: Senator Alicia V. Barnes Vice-Chair: Senator Myron D. Jackson

Committee on Education and Workforce Development Chair: Senator Donna A. Frett-Gregory
Vice-Chair: Senator Kurt A. Viallet

Committee on Health, Hospitals and Human Services Chair: Senator Oakland Benta Vice Chair: Senator Janelle K. Sarauw

Committee on Youth, Sports, Parks and Recreation Chair: Senator Javan E. James, Sr. Vice-Chair: Senator Steven D. Payne, Sr.

Committee on Economic Development, Regulations and Agriculture Chair: Senator Allison L. DeGazon Vice Chair: Senator Athneil “Bobby” Thomas

Committee on Homeland Security, Justice, Public Safety, and Veterans’ Affairs Chair: Senator Steven D. Payne, Sr. Vice-Chair: Senator Oakland Benta

Committee on Housing, Transportation, Infrastructure and Telecommunications Chair: Senator Marvin A. Blyden Vice-Chair: Senator Alicia V. Barnes

Committee on Culture, Historic Preservation, and Aging Chair: Senator Myron D. Jackson Vice-Chair: Senator Javan E. James, Sr.

Committee of the Whole is composed of all members of the 33rd Legislature.



JUNE 10TH

Mariott walkthrough status



On Monday, June 10th, Senator Sarauw and members of the 33rd Legislature participated in a walkthrough of the Mariott Frenchman’s Reef to observe and get a status update on the restoration efforts of the hotel that was damaged during Hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017.

Representatives of the resort informed Senators due to the lack of progress in the processing of CZM permits, the hotel restoration was delayed and the expected opening date of the Mariott Frenchman’s Reef is set to 2021.

JUNE

Budget Calendar

June marks the beginning of the Budget review for all government agencies in the Territory. Senator Sarauw, a member of the Committee on Finance, also believes in fiscal responsibility and continues to encourage the government to be accountable and transparent.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1.
2.	3. <i>No Hearings</i>	4. <i>No Hearings</i>	5. <i>No Hearings</i>	6. <i>No Hearings</i>	7. <i>No Hearings</i>	8.
9.	10. <i>No Hearings</i>	11. <i>St. Thomas</i> 9:00 AM <i>Budget Overview</i>	12. <i>No Hearings</i>	13. <i>No Hearings</i>	14. <i>No Hearings</i>	15.
16.	17. <i>No Hearings</i>	18. <i>No Hearings</i>	19. <i>No Hearings</i>	20. <i>No Hearings</i>	21. <i>No Hearings</i>	22.
23.	24.	25. <i>St. Thomas</i> 9:00 AM Office of Management and Budget 12:00 PM LUNCH 1:00 PM Department of Finance 3:00 PM Public Finance Authority	26. <i>No Hearings</i>	27. <i>St. Thomas</i> 9:00 AM VI Police Department Law Enforcement Planning Commission 12:00 PM LUNCH 1:00 PM VI Fire Services 3:00 PM VITEMA	28.	29.
30.						

JUNE 11TH Budget Overview



Senator Sarauw: “I would be remised if I didn’t ask about the 8%. I am just asking on behalf of the population.”

Jenifer O’Neal, Director of OMB: “The budget, as submitted, I know will be changed and we will gladly work with the Finance Committee to make those amendments as you deem necessary.”



JUNE 13TH

Committee on Rules and Judiciary

The Committee on Rules and Judiciary met to reconsider the nomination of Daryl Jaschen for the Director of the Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency and hear the following bills – Bill No. 33-0009, Bill No. 33-0027, and Bill No. 33-0043.

Bill No. 33-0009 An Act amending title 20, Part II, chapter 37, subchapter II, section 407 relating to sale of taxi medallions by adding a new subsection (d) providing a definition of Virgin Islands veteran for the purposes of the section.

Bill No. 33-0027 An act amending title 17, chapter 7, section 61a of the Virgin Islands Code to allow the Department of Education greater flexibility in setting the school calendar upon the declaration of a state of emergency.

Bill No. 33-0043 An Act amending title 27, chapter 9 of the Virgin Islands Code by adding a section 305h providing for a ban on the retail sale or offer for sale, and the distribution or importation for retail purposes of topical sunscreen products containing oxybenzone and octinoxate.

Prior to the Director Nominee, Daryl Jaschen, providing testimony before the Committee,

several letters were received and read into the record – all of which were in support of the nominee’s nomination. The letters spoke to Nominee Jaschen’s experience, training and management style.



Nominee Jaschen provided the Committee with a supplemental testimony to his original (testimony) detailing his previous work experience, to include 30 years of military service, as well as the progress he and his cabinet have made in coordinating efforts for disaster preparedness as the lead agency. Nominee Jaschen noted that lessons were learned from Hurricanes Irma and Maria which is evident in the efforts made throughout the planning process and ongoing communication with FEMA and other local agencies as the agency readies in preparation.

JUNE 13TH

Committee on Rules and Judiciary Continue



Senators inquired of communication capabilities, mobilization of stakeholders, the identification of evacuation shelters, familiarity with the After-Action Report and the USVI Hurricane Recovery and Resilience Task Force Book. Furthermore, inquiry was made about the status on storage capacity and inventory, as well as the stationing of generators throughout the Territory, with the nominee promising to add one on the island of St John. Additionally, Nominee Jaschen noted a stockpile of water and meals within the Territory to address short-term response which is a change from before-the-storms whereby these provisions were stationed on Puerto Rico. As far as readiness, Nominee Jaschen responded to inquiry that he believes that the Territory's level of preparedness is an 8 out of 10. Lastly, in spite of a few recommendations and suggestions made, Senators noted satisfaction in the detailed testimony and ready responses to the various questions by the nominee during this second hearing, thereby garnering their favorable votes.



A motion was made by Senator Myron D. Jackson and seconded by Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr. for the nomination of nominee Daryl Jaschen to be voted on favorably and further consideration. By unanimous vote, the motion was APPROVED favorably with a vote of seven (7) yeas.



Discussed as a whole block, Senators supported all measures proposed—specifically highlighting the importance of the three bills in their own right. Regarding Bill No. 33-0009, Senators acknowledge the “step in the right direction” for defining a Virgin Islands veteran in order to secure any benefits of support for this deserved population. Regarding Bill No. 33-0043, Senators stated the need for the Territory to protect our natural resources in light of the destruction of approximately 80% of the coral reefs, as well as the threat to the way of life and the need for a safe and sound

JUNE 13TH

Committee on Rules and Judiciary Continue

marine ecosystem. The Chair made mention of the opposition by big corporations which have products on the market obtaining the harmful ingredients.

Regarding Bill No. 33-0027, Senators acknowledged the benefit of this measure particularly to the students – an emerging necessity after the experience after the recent storms in 2017. Opposition by the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) was acknowledged with the local chapters believing an infringement on collective bargaining agreements. However, Senators agreed that granting greater flexibility to the Department of Education to set the school calendar in emergency situations allowed the Department to do what is necessary in a more timely fashion.

- Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr. offered Amendment No. 33-255 (as amended with technical amendment) to Bill No. 33-0009. A motion was made for favorable consideration of Bill No. 33-0009 as amended by Senator Francis and seconded by Senator Jackson.

- Senator Alicia V. Barnes offered Amendment No. 33-269 to Bill No. 33-0027 on behalf of Senator Kurt A. Violet. A motion was made for favorable consideration of Bill No. 33-0027 as amended by Senator Barnes and seconded by Senator Francis.

- A motion was made for favorable consideration of Bill No. 33-0043 by Senator Jackson and seconded by Senator Francis.

By unanimous vote, all motions were APPROVED favorably with a vote of seven (7) yeas and forwarded to the full body for further consideration.



JUNE 18TH UPDATE

Bill No. 33-0020, sponsored by Senator Sarauw, was heard and voted on favourably by the Committee of Culture, Historic Preservation and Aging. This Resolution honors and commends Tishelle Knight for her musical contributions to the Virgin Islands community.





Press Release

Where is the Division of Festivals?

As it stands, the Department of Tourism has failed to establish the Division of Festivals.

Bill No. 32-0308, which was passed unanimously by the 32nd Legislature and signed into law by former Governor Kenneth Mapp, established the Division of Festivals within the Department of Tourism whose function would be to organize and execute festivals and to re-establish the Virgin Islands Cultural Heritage Institute within the Department of Tourism.

With the Crucian Festival just a few months away, the Department of Tourism has failed to announce a Director, Assistant Directors, and the plans of execution for the St. Croix Crucian Festival 2019 - 2020 activities.

Senator Sarauw, one of the primary sponsors of the bill, has corresponded with the Department of Tourism's Commissioner, Joseph Boschulte, on numerous occasions on matters including the progress of the Division of Festivals, the upcoming Crucian Christmas Festival and potential funding sources. The Department of Tourism's lack of progress is a defiant move against the legislation which is now law.

"We have an opportunity to promote our culture, rebrand and market our Carnival and Festivals to bring revenue to the Territory," stated Senator Sarauw. "Case in point, our neighboring BVI brought thousands to the Buju Long Walk to Freedom concert. If we market and brand our activities, we can entice people to come and invest in our Territory; it's called Entertainment Tourism! Instead this administration is nonchalant in implementing the law."

With the Crucian Christmas Festival in sight, it is imperative that the Department of Tourism implement the Division of Festivals NOW!

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JUNE 20TH

Committee on Rules and Judiciary

The Committee on Rules and Judiciary met to consider the nomination of Richard Tomas Evangelista, Esq. for the Commissioner of the Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs and hear the following resolutions – Bill No. 33-0038, Bill No. 33-0039, Bill No. 33-0057, Bill No. 33-0079 and Bill No. 33-0083. (Due to a stated personal family emergency, Board Nominee, Catikawa Richardson, was rescheduled for a future hearing).

Block I was comprised of five resolutions honoring and commending Virgin Islands who have made a notable impact of these United States Virgin Islands through their service, talents, and notable contributions in their respective areas of influence. Senators spoke volumes of praise for Alwyn “Big Al” Baptiste, Sr., Alwyn “Daddy Jones” Baptiste, Jr., and Janice Pemberton Tutein posthumously, as well as Thelma Ruby Schade Youndblood. The last resolution, Bill No. 33-0083, also recognized the 50th anniversary of the Virgin Islands Port Authority. Undoubtedly, all honored individuals have made their indelible mark on these native soils according to collective sentiments of the Senators and the necessary service of VIPA has been enduring through the years – marked by its golden year.

Commissioner Nominee, Richard Tomas Evangelista, provided testimony to the Committee on his qualifications, vision, and progress made since nomination. In efforts to boost customer morale, Nominee Evangelista highlighted a method of communication termed “G.H.O.S.T.” with intention of utilizing gentle, honest, open and specific communication to facilitate these efforts. To address the lag in issuing business licenses, Nominee Evangelista spoke of his creation of a Licensing Task Force to discuss and seek out efficiency in this area with other agency heads. The nominee also explained his Consumer Advocacy Group initiative to discourage business noncompliance and promote accountability. Additionally, Nominee Evangelista stated his intention to seek the transfer of Vendors Plaza to the Department of Tourism.

Assistant Commissioner, H. Nathalie Hodge, provided testimony in support of Nominee Evangelista’s nomination by stating the nominee’s commendable efforts to date which include holding public forums on each islands for the purpose of public education, encouraging transparency and increase employee morale within the Department, and having the necessary conversations towards the streamlining of the licensing process.

Senators inquired about the issue of enforcement, previous assignments, policy directives to date, position on business violations, licensing in light of zoning laws, and plans for the training and development of the staff. Nominee Evangelista satisfactorily responded to these inquiries garnering their favorable votes.

A motion was made by Senator Alicia V. Barnes and seconded by Senators Novelle E. Francis, Jr. and Myron D. Jackson for the nomination of nominee Richard Tomas Evangelista, Esq. to be voted on favorably and forwarded to the full body for further consideration. By unanimous vote, the motion was APPROVED favorably with a vote of six (6) yeas and one (1) absent.

JUNE 21ST

Committee on Rules and Judiciary

The Committee on Rules and Judiciary met to hear the following bills – Bill No. 33-0044, Bill No. 33-0030 and Bill No. 33-0072. A motion by Senator Francis and seconded by Senator Jackson and Payne to add Board Nominee, Catikawa Richardson to the agenda with no objections.

Bill No. 33-0044 An Act amending title 3, chapter 16, section 274 of the Virgin Islands Code requiring the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission to implement an electronic monetary payment system.

Bill No. 33-0030 An Act amending title 11, chapter 21, section 1213 of the Virgin Islands Code by requiring the annual renewal of trade name registration.

Bill No. 33-0072 An Act appropriating \$39,467,909 that was awarded to the Virgin Islands Medical Assistance Program as a result of a multi-year account reconciliation and review of several of the Territory's health care agencies to various governmental entities.

Regarding Bill No. 33-0044, the testifiers representing various taxi companies – both franchised and independent –presented passionately in opposition to the proposed measure citing various concerns. Such concerns included the associated fees, lack of training, feeling singled-out as an industry, the challenge of credit card disputes, internet connectivity, handling large amounts of customers, other industry needs for improvement and trepidation with undergoing the legislative process of mandating credit card payments. After listening to the expressed concerns of the opposing testifiers, Senators reiterated that having an electronic payment option was not only good for the taxi industry, but for the tourism industry of the US Virgin Islands, citing various complaints received during the Sea Trade Conference and locally. Additionally, Senators were willing to secure the necessary training needed to assist in the use of the electronic payment system, as well as look into possible fee waiver or reduction from the bank vendor. In the end, the testifiers noted that they in fact had this electronic option, but was voicing concerns for those who did not and may not want to have such a measure mandated. Some Senators supported the measure and the move to continue and expand the use of this option and to have a collective conversation amongst all stakeholders moving forward. Other Senators opposed the measure.

Regarding Bill No. 33-0030, Senators were in full support of the measure to require renewal at a cost of \$100 for a two-year trade name renewal.

Regarding Bill No. 33-0072, Senators were not in support of the appropriations as is in the measure and voted against it.

---- RECESS CALLED BY CHAIR ----

(UNTIL MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2019)



JUNE 24TH

Committee on Rules and Judiciary

The Committee on Rules and Judiciary reconvened out of recess from Friday, June 21, 2019 to consider the nomination of Board Nominee Catikawa Richardson. *A motion was made by Senator Francis and seconded by Senators Alicia V. Barnes, Myron D. Jackson and Steven D. Payne to add Bill No. 33-0101 to the agenda.

Bill No. 33-0101* An Act appropriating \$39,467,909 that was awarded to the Virgin Islands Medical Assistance Program as a result of a multi-year account reconciliation and review of several of the Territory's health care agencies to various governmental entities.

Board Nominee Catikawa Richardson was not prepared with written testimony. As a result, the nominee will be scheduled for a future hearing.

Regarding Bill No. 33-0101, Senators spoke to the need of taking into consideration the input of all necessary stakeholders as they expressed concern over the use of the appropriation in the previous bill (Bill No. 33-0072). Consequently, the funds were redistributed to reflect that aim. As stated by many Senators, this measure is in attempts to more appropriately use the funds as they were primarily intended – for the health care entities and for healthcare purposes.

A motion was made by Senator Myron D. Jackson and seconded by Senators Novelle E. Francis, Jr. and Steven D. Payne for Bill No. 33-0101 to be voted on favorably and forwarded to the full body for further consideration. The motion was APPROVED favorably with a vote of six (6) yeas and one (1) absent.



JUNE 25TH

Legislative Session

During Legislative Session, Mr. Daryl Jaschen, Director Nominee of the Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency and Mr. Richard Tomas Evangelista, Esq., Commissioner Nominee of the Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs would both successfully be forwarded to the Governor for approval.

Other Bills on the agenda to include:

Bill No 33-0038 - A Resolution posthumously honoring and commending Alwyn “Big Al” Baptiste, Sr. for his outstanding contributions to the music industry and to the Virgin Islands.

Bill No. 33-0039 - A Resolution honoring and commending Alwyn “Daddy Jones” Baptiste, Jr. for his outstanding contributions to the music industry and to the Virgin Islands.

Bill No. 33-0057 - A Resolution posthumously honoring and commending Janice Pemberton Totem for her tireless years of educating our youth and her work as a storyteller and culture bearer, which exemplifies dedicated service to the Virgin Islands community.

Bill No.33-0079 - A Resolution honoring and commending Thelma Ruby Schade Youngblood for her outstanding service and contributions to the Lutheran Church of the Virgin Islands and the Virgin Islands community.

Bill No. 33-0083 - A Resolution recognizing 50th anniversary of the Virgin Islands Port Authority.

Bill No. 33-0009 - An Act amending title 20. Pan II. chapter 37, subchapter II. section 407 relating to sale of taxi medallions by adding a new subsection (d) providing a definition of Virgin Islands veteran for the purposes of the section.

Bill No. 33-0015 - An Act amending section 105 (fl of title 22 Virgin Islands Code to satisfy the accreditation standards established by the National Association Commissioners in its model laws and update the insurance laws of the Virgin Islands of the United States placing them on par with other United States jurisdictions thereby affording greater and more effective protection to the policyholders in the Virgin Islands.

Bill No. 33-0016 - An Act amending title 22 Virgin Islands Code, to add a new chapter 20a entitled "The Risk Management and Own Risk and Solvency Assessment Act" which meets the accreditation standards established by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners in its model laws and updates the insurance laws of the Virgin Islands of the United States placing them on par with other United States jurisdictions thereby affording greater and more effective protection to the policyholders in the Virgin Islands.

Bill No. 33-0027 - An act amending title 17, chapter?, section 61a of the Virgin Islands Code to allow the Department of Education greater flexibility in setting the school calendar upon the declaration of a state of emergency.

Bill No. 33-0030 - An Act amending title II, chapter 21, section 1213 of the Virgin Islands Code by requiring the annual renewal of trade name registration.

Bill No. 33-0043 - An Act amending title 27, chapter 9 of the Virgin Islands Code by adding a section 305h providing for a ban on the retail sale or offer for sale, and the distribution or importation for retail purposes of topical sunscreen products containing oxybenzone and octinoxate.

Bill No. 33-0101 - An Act appropriating \$39,467,909 that was awarded to the Virgin Islands Medical Assistance Program as a result of a multi-year account reconciliation and review of several of the Territory's health care entities to various governmental entities.

All Bills would pass Legislative Session with the included amendments except for Bill No. 33-0044, An Act amending title 3. chapter 16. section 274 of the Virgin Islands Code requiring the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission to implement an electronic monetary payment system, would be motioned to be held in Session.

Senator Sarauw shared her dismay and stated her opinion that the opportunity would be now for the Territory to grow and accept change. "If it was up to millennials we wouldn't have cash as an option." state Senator Sarauw. "Everybody doesn't carry cash for security reasons; there needs to be another option in place."

With the Territory dependant on Tourism to sustain its economy, the Territory has to change to provide for conveniences. The lack of progression to follow in the footsteps of modernisation is crippling the Territory. Case in point, Bill No. 33-0101, WAPA vender VITOL threatened services to WAPA for lack of payment and decided to hold WAPA accountable. WAPA officials informed the Senate in a hearing about the threat of going black if no payment was made. Simply unacceptable.

On another positive note, Bill No. 33-0043 - An Act providing for a ban on the retail sale or offer for sale, and the distribution or importation for retail purposes of topical sunscreen products containing oxybenzone and octinoxate did get full support of the Senators present.

The full ban will go into effect March 30, 2020, with retailers prohibited from receiving shipments of sunscreen containing these ingredients after September 30, 2019. Additionally, from the day the governor signs the bill, placing new orders would be prohibited.

“Oxybenzone, octinoxate and octocrylene devastate coral and marine life and are also known carcinogenic and hormone disruptors in humans,” said Harith Wickrema, president of Island Green Living Association. “The Caribbean has already lost more than 80% of its coral due to a variety of issues. Studies have shown that these chemicals are at 40+ times acceptable levels in some territory waters. In addition to environmental and human harm, tourism-based economies will experience financial devastation if coral and marine life die off. The ripple effect would be huge and we need to take action now.”

The USVI legislation goes further than anywhere else in the United States including Hawaii and Key West, adding the dangerous chemical octocrylene to its ban and having earlier implementation dates. The groundbreaking legislation will protect coral, marine life and human health while propelling the territory to the forefront of this international campaign. It is expected to be signed by Governor Bryan in July.





**OFFICE OF
SENATOR SARAUW
FINANCIAL REPORT**

EXPENDITURES

LINE ITEM	DESCRIPTION	MONTHLY \$	YTD
TRAVEL (AIR/HOTEL*)	[Senator] [Staff]	\$176.80	\$2,422.48
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT		\$0	\$0
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	Internet/Cable, Maintenance	\$1,435.13	\$3,867.44
OFFICE SUPPLIES	Paper, envelopes, pens, pencils, binders, folders, etc	\$102.39	\$487.14
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	Printing Committee Expenditures	\$286.04 \$3,329.97	\$4,971.38
MISC		\$180.00	\$9,968.95
Total		\$5,510.33	\$21,717.39

33rd Legislature of the Virgin Islands
Office of the Honorable Janelle K Sarauw
2019 June Financial Report



LEGISLATION:

To date, Senator Sarauw has submitted 54 bills and amendments; 14 which have been received and assigned to committee.



Legislative Snapshot

Women and Children – BR No. 19-0088 - To create a Women, Children and Families Act that holistically addressing the needs of women, children and families in the areas of healthcare, social services, and mental health.

Loitering – Amend No. 33-069 - In collaboration with Senator Francis, the purpose is to strengthen loitering laws to reduce crime outside of clubs and bars.

School Alignment – Bill No. 33-0019 - Changing the school year to align with school districts in the 50 states.

School Time – Amend No. 33-023 - To require the school day for middle, junior and high schools to begin no earlier than 8:30 a.m.

Education – Bill No. 33-0035 - An Act amending title 3, chapter 5 of the Virgin Islands Code authorizing the Government of the Virgin Islands, its departments, bureaus, agencies and instrumentalities to implement flextime or staggered time.

Tribute to Alli Paul – Bill No. 33-0060 - A Resolution posthumously honoring and commending Alvin “Alli” Paul for his contribution to the culture of the Virgin Islands, through the Mocko Jumbie artform.

Tribute Tishelle Knight – Bill No. 33-0020 - A Resolution honoring and commending Tishelle Knight for her accomplishments, service and musical contributions to the Virgin Islands.

PSC regulation – Bill No. 33-0055 - An Act amending titles 3 and 30 of the Virgin Islands Code, pertaining to the Public Services Commission.

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) - BR No. 19-0078 - Prescription Surveillance Law for Controlled Drugs.

Expungement – Bill Draft No. 19-0090 - To allow for the expungement of felony convictions.

Small business development and support – Bill No. 33-040 - To waive all fees and taxes for start-up small businesses in their first two years of operation.

Probate revision – Bill Draft No. 19-0072 - Phase I revision of the probate code.

Recreational Marijuana – Bill No. 19-0061 - To legalize and regulate the adult use of cannabis for recreational purposes.

Public Beach Access - Bill No. 33-1888 - To amend the law on open beaches and shorelines.



33rd Legislature

Crafting Policy

DATE SUBMITTED	SUMMARY	ASSIGNED NUMBER	STATUS
1/14/19	To amend and codify provisions regarding database of Virgin Islands residents living aboard	33-022	Rescinded 2/7/2019
1/14/19	To require the school day for middle, junior, and high schools to begin no earlier than 8:30am	33-023	Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	To provide for extended hours of operations for key agencies that provide services directly to the public	33-024	RECEIVED 3/14/2019
1/14/19	To ban the sale of powdered alcohol products; known as palcohol	33-025	Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	To add a new chapter to enable the establishment and use of a Business Improvement Districts in the VI for the enhancement of our economy	33-026	Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	To provide that members of the Board of Ed. Complete min. 12 hrs of continuing education prior filing date for re-election		Rescinded 1/25/2019
1/14/19	To enact a local version of federal COBRA statues so that separated employees can continue health care coverage		Rescinded 4/10/2019
1/14/19	To establish a temporary moratorium on large-scale coastal development on STT, STJ, and Water Island pending adoption of updated CZM Plan		Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	To add new "Commercial Driver's License Operator requirement"	33-027	Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	To add new language as it pertains to the Casino Control Commission	33-028	RECEIVED 3/5/2019
1/14/19	To provide tax incentives to employers who hire former inmates convicted of non-violent offenses		Submitted; attaching to expungement
1/14/19	To re-enact former provisions of Title 24 requiring government contractors to hire apprentices		Rescinded 4/10/2019

DATE SUBMITTED	SUMMARY	ASSIGNED NUMBER	STATUS
1/14/19	To enhance the PSC's regulatory authority over WAPA		Info submitted to counsel 2/7/2019
1/14/19	To have employee deductions directly deposited into GERS account	33-029	Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	To add numerical limitations on number of gas stations on STT & STX including 5 year moratorium on gas stations	33-030	Pre-empted by Senator Blyden
1/14/19	To legalize and regulate the adult use of cannabis for recreational purposes.		Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	An act requiring the DOJ and BOC to conduct a feasibility study to determine the viability for early release for terminal ill and elderly inmates		Rescinded 4/10/19
1/14/19	To require exit interviews be conducted with all GVI employees upon transfer, resignation, retirement or termination		Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	To add credit card and check section on the 720-B Form for Gross Receipt Annual Tax Return	33-031	Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	To allow the senate to nominate and appoint members to vacancies on boards and commissions in the absence of action by the governor	33-032	Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	To update laws regarding mooring and marine waste disposal		Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	To impose a fee on money transmissions sent to destinations outside the US and its territories	33-033	Pre-empted by Senator Blyden
1/14/19	To amend 34 VIC as it pertains to the Pharmaceutical Program for the aged to include those with cancer and/or degenerative diseases	33-034	Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	To prohibit all government agencies from accepting cash as a form of payment		Rescinded 4/10/2019

33rd Legislature

Crafting Policy

DATE SUBMITTED	SUMMARY	ASSIGNED NUMBER	STATUS
1/14/19	To increase the time period in which a homeowner can redeem their property subsequent to foreclosure on a mortgage		Rescinded 2/7/2019
1/14/19	To restructure the AG's office and provide 10 year appointed term		Pre-empted by Senator Francis
1/14/19	To revise the Probate code		Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	To honor Rising Stars		Bio submitted 2/7/2019
1/14/19	To repeal gross receipt tax in its entirety and replace it with sales tax	33-035	Pre-empted by Senator Francis
1/14/19	To repeal the Sin Tax in it's entirety	33-036	Pre-empted by Senator DeGraff
1/14/19	Changing the school year to align with school districts in the 50 states	33-037	RECEIVED 3/5/2019 Assigned to Committee
1/14/19	Autorizing decision making by the Single Board of Elections	33-038	Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	Prescription Surveillance Law for Controlled Drugs		Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	To waive all fees and taxes for start-up small businesses in their first two years of operation	33-040	Rescinded 3/11/2019
1/14/19	To amend the provisions of law governing the substitute teacher pool and facilitate timely payment	33-041	Rescinded 3/11/2019
1/14/19	To honor Tishelle Knight		RECEIVED 3/5/2019

DATE SUBMITTED	SUMMARY	ASSIGNED NUMBER	STATUS
1/14/19	To allow teachers and other education professionals to write-off up to 5,000 on their tax returns for personal funds spent on classroom supplies, etc.		Rescinded 2/7/2019
1/14/19	To establish Teacher Recruitment and Retention Fund funded by EDC contributions		Rescinded 2/5/19
1/14/19	To amend taxi rates, institute metered cab fare system, require taxi drivers to make provisions to accept credit cards	33-042	Info submitted to counsel 1/22/2019
1/14/19	Revise vehicle probate laws		Received 4/26/19
1/14/19	Enacting legislation governing the operations of the Territorial Longitudinal Data System; known as VIVIS		Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/14/19	To merge West Indian Company Lmtd. And VI Port Authority		Info submitted 3/14/2019
1/14/19	Woman, Children, and Families Act		RECEIVED 3/20/2019; Submitted more changes 4/11/2019
1/14/19	To increase senatorial allotments	33-039	RECEIVED 3/6/2019
1/14/19	To allow for the expungement of felony convictions.		Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/18/19	Apprenticeship Bill technical amendment offered by Gov. K. Mapp; changing DPNR to Property and Procurement	33-068	RECEIVED 3/6/2019
1/18/19	To strengthen the loitering laws	33-069	RECEIVED 3/6/2019
1/18/19	To amend the Education Initiative Fund section 3093 and to repeal section 3100i	33-070	RECEIVED 3/5/2019

33rd Legislature

Crafting Policy

DATE SUBMITTED	SUMMARY	ASSIGNED NUMBER	STATUS
1/18/19	To change who handles contempt proceedings; replacing US Attorney with VI Attorney General		RECEIVED 2/28/2019
1/22/19	To pardon all those who are incarcerated for cannabis related crimes.		Submitted to Legal Counsel
1/25/19	To establish escrow account for civilians to pay for police officers		RECEIVED 3/7/2019
2/1/19	To change the # of senators that may meet to form minority and choose leader		Memo sent requesting BR No. to change to a resolution
2/4/19	To honor Alvin "Ali" Paul for the art of mocko jumbee		Received 3/20/19
2/8/19	To appropriate \$200,000 from general fund for a contitutional convention	33-132	Info Submitted 3/15/2019
3/11/19	To update Title 19 Health of the VIC		Submitted to Legal Counsel
	To amend the law on open beaches and shorelines.	33-188	Submitted to Legal Counsel
3/19/19	To provide for the VI Minority & Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program		Pre-empted by Senator Jackson
3/21/19	Re-submitted "Dig Once"		Submitted to Legal Counsel
3/26/19	Transfer Fisherman of territory to Department of Agriculture		Submitted to Legal Counsel
3/29/19	To appropriate \$50,000 to UVI Cell to conduct a tax study; gross receipt to sales tax		Pre-empted by Senator DeGraff

DATE SUBMITTED	SUMMARY	ASSIGNED NUMBER	STATUS
4/8/19	Government contracts for natural disasters by June 1 each year		Submitted to Legal Counsel
4/8/19	Add a definition for "Rape by fraud"		Pre-empted by Senator Francis
4/9/19	To add language to Escrow account bill	33-237	RECEIVED 4/23/2019
4/15/19	To appropriate 300,000 for VIDE to provide for mental health services		Submitted to Legal Counsel
4/23/19	To revise language in Ali paul resolution	33-244	Submitted to Legal Counsel
4/30/19	Amendments for PSC	33-265	Submitted to Legal Counsel
5/8/19	To update VIC Landlord & tenant statues	19-0476	Submitted to Legal Counsel



Committee on Rules and Judiciary