

RESOLUTION NO. 1839

BILL NO. 32-0001

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Regular Session

2017

A Resolution establishing the Majority Caucus, electing the officers, appointing chairpersons, vice-chairpersons and members to the standing committees of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the Virgin Islands, and adopting the Rules of the Thirty-Second Legislature

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WHEREAS, section 7 (a) of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands requires regular sessions of the Legislature to be held annually commencing on the second Monday in January; and

WHEREAS, section 6 (g) of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands grants the Legislature of the Virgin Islands the authority to exercise all the attributes inherent in legislative assemblies; and

WHEREAS, the election of its officers, establishment of committees, appointment of members to the committees, and the general organization of the body are inherent powers of the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, it has been a long-standing rule of the Legislature that on the second Monday in January of odd-numbered years, after the Oath of Office Ceremony and the taking of and subscribing to the oath, all Senators meet at the Capitol Building in Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, and convene in regular session to organize the Legislature and the new term of the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, it has been a long-standing practice authorized by the Rules of the Legislature that the officers, committee chairpersons, and members on committees may be elected by adoption of a resolution organizing the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the authority granted by the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands, the purpose of this resolution is to organize the Thirty-Second Legislature of the Virgin Islands: Now Therefore.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. THAT the Thirty-Second Legislature elects the following members to the offices of the Thirty-Second Legislature as set forth in subsections (a) through (h) of this section.

- (a) Senator Myron D. Jackson is elected President.
- (b) Senator Nereida Rivera-O'Reilly is elected Vice-President.
- (c) Senator Jean A. Forde is elected Secretary.
- (d) Senator Neville A. James is elected Majority Leader.
- (e) Senator Jean A. Forde is elected Secretary for Intergovernmental and Territorial Affairs.
- (f) Senator Marvin A. Blyden is elected Liaison to the United States Congress.
- (g) Senator Brian A. Smith is elected Liaison to the United States Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs.
- (h) Senator Sammuell Sanes is elected Liaison to the White House.

SECTION 2. THAT the following standing committees of the Thirty-Second Legislature are established, and the chairpersons, vice-chairpersons, and members are appointed to the respective committees as set forth in subsections (a) through (i) of this section.

- (a) The committee on Rules and the Judiciary consists of:
 - (1) Chair, Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr.;
 - (2) Vice-chair, Senator Jean A. Forde;
 - (3) Senator Myron D. Jackson;
 - (4) Senator Sammuell Sanes;
 - (5) Senator Janette Millin Young;
 - (6) Senator Positive T. A. Nelson; and
 - (7) Senator Marvin A. Blyden.

- (b) The Committee on Finance consists of:
- (1) Chair, Senator Kurt A. Violet;
 - (2) Vice-chair, Senator Marvin A. Blyden;
 - (3) Senator Neville A. James;
 - (4) Senator Nereida Rivera-O'Reilly;
 - (5) Senator Brian A. Smith;
 - (6) Senator Tregenza A. Roach; and
 - (7) Senator Dwayne M. DeGraff.
- (c) The Committee on Health, Hospitals, and Human Services consists of:
- (1) Chair, Senator Nereida Rivera-O'Reilly;
 - (2) Vice-chair, Senator Kurt A. Violet;
 - (3) Senator Marvin A. Blyden;
 - (4) Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr.;
 - (5) Senator Janette Millin Young;
 - (6) Senator Samuel Sanes; and
 - (7) Senator Dwayne M. DeGraff.
- (d) The Committee on Education, Youth, and Recreation consists of:
- (1) Chair, Senator Jean A. Forde;
 - (2) Vice-chair, Senator Neville A. James;
 - (3) Senator Kurt A. Violet;
 - (4) Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr.;
 - (5) Senator Myron D. Jackson;
 - (6) Senator Tregenza A. Roach; and
 - (7) Senator Brian A. Smith.

(e) The Committee on Workforce Development, Consumer Affairs, and Culture consists of:

- (1) Chair, Senator Myron D. Jackson;
- (2) Vice-chair, Senator Nereida Rivera-O'Reilly;
- (3) Senator Janette Millin Young;
- (4) Senator Brian A. Smith;
- (5) Senator Positive T. A. Nelson;
- (6) Senator Alicia Hansen; and
- (7) Senator Marvin A. Blyden.

(f) The Committee on Housing, Public Works, Waste Management, and Planning consists of:

- (1) Chair, Senator Marvin A. Blyden;
- (2) Vice-chair, Senator Samuel Sanes;
- (3) Senator Neville A. James;
- (4) Senator Jean A. Forde;
- (5) Senator Janette Millin Young;
- (6) Senator Alicia Hansen; and
- (7) Senator Brian A. Smith.

(g) The Committee on Homeland Security, Justice, and Public Safety consists of:

- (1) Chair, Senator Brian A. Smith;
- (2) Vice-chair, Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr.;
- (3) Senator Jean A. Forde;
- (4) Senator Nereida Rivera-O'Reilly;
- (5) Senator Positive T. A. Nelson;

- (6) Senator Dwayne M. DeGraff; and
 - (7) Senator Alicia Hansen.
- (h) The Committee on Economic Development, and Agriculture consists of:
- (1) Chair, Senator Neville A. James;
 - (2) Vice-chair, Senator Brian A. Smith;
 - (3) Senator Samuel Sanes;
 - (4) Senator Dwayne M. DeGraff;
 - (5) Senator Nereida Rivera-O'Reilly;
 - (6) Senator Kurt A. Vialet;
 - (7) Senator Marvin A. Blyden;
 - (8) Senator Positive T. A. Nelson; and
 - (9) Senator Tregenza A. Roach.
- (i) The Committee on Government Affairs, Veterans, Energy, and Environmental Protection consists of:
- (1) Chair, Senator Samuel Sanes;
 - (2) Vice-chair, Senator Marvin A. Blyden;
 - (3) Senator Jean A. Forde;
 - (4) Senator Nereida Rivera-O'Reilly;
 - (5) Senator Alicia Hansen;
 - (6) Senator Tregenza A. Roach; and
 - (7) Senator Janette Millin Young.

SECTION 4. THAT the Rules governing the organization and operations of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the Virgin Islands are as set forth in the document entitled "Rules of the 32nd Legislature of the Virgin Islands", dated January 9, 2017, which is attached as Appendix A to this Resolution, and by this reference is made a part of this Resolution.

Thus passed by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands on January 9, 2017.

Witness our Hands and Seal of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands this 11th Day of January, A.D., 2017.



A large, stylized blue ink signature of Myron D. Jackson.

Myron D. Jackson
President

A blue ink signature of Jean A. Forde, consisting of two large, overlapping loops.

Jean A. Forde
Legislative Secretary