

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Come Voice Your Opinion At These Town Hall Meetings Ahead Of Election Reform Senate Hearings

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ST. CROIX --- Senator Kenneth "Kenny" Gittens, chairman of the Committee on Rules and Judiciary is reminding residents of the town hall meetings that have been scheduled for this week, ahead of working sessions on election reform, according to a press release issued by the senator's office on Sunday.

The working sessions, according to the senator, are designed to be informal working groups between members of the Joint Boards of Election, the staff of the Elections System of the Virgin Islands and the legislators and are scheduled for June 18 and 19 on St. Croix.

“Meeting on election reform has been a long time coming, these town hall meetings ahead of the working sessions will open the dialogue to make needed changes to Title 18 of the Virgin Islands Code, which speaks to election policies and procedures pertaining to how the territory runs every aspect of its elections.

“It is something that our residents are very interested in after seeing the current laws create confusion and contradiction. It is an ideal time for all of us to be a part of the process for a better Virgin Islands by getting involved,” he said.

The second-term senator said anyone interested in giving their input at this week’s town hall meetings can do so either by attending or submitting them to fstokes@legvi.org. He said all parties involved have to work fast and be efficient with their time and resources to get all the necessary changes in place as deadline for changes for the 2016 elections are looming.

“We’ve received a lot of great input from various organizations and individuals. Residents have expressed their interest in giving their input during the town hall meetings, but there is still a chance for others to get involved so that we can all work for the greater good of our beloved Virgin Islands,” said Gittens.

“The town-hall meetings are scheduled for 6 p.m. Monday, June 15 at the Legislative Conference Room on St. John and 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 16 at Roy Lester Schneider Hospital Conference Room. The St. Croix town hall meeting hosted by the St. Croix Election Board is scheduled for 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 17 at UVI Great Hall,” Gittens concluded.

Residents interested in giving input may also call 712-2279 for more information. *Feature Image: Supporters gather at various polling stations during the November 4, 2014 General Election.*