

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Quick Note: Rules Committee Approves Banking Board Nominee Laurel Hewitt-Sewer

VIC News / **Published On January 28, 2016 01:00 PM /**

Ernice Gilbert **January 28, 2016**



ST. THOMAS -- The Committee on Rules and Judiciary on Wednesday approved the nomination of Laurel Hewitt-Sewer to serve on the Virgin Islands Banking Board, St. Thomas-St. John district. Her nomination will be forwarded to the full Senate for its ratification or rejection.

According to a press release issued by Lieutenant Governor Osbert Potter's office in November, 2015, Mrs. Sewer, who resides on St. John but was born on St. Croix, is a highly accomplished educator and human services administrator with twenty-seven years of outstanding service in the Government of the Virgin Islands. She served as a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at Bertha C. Boschulte Middle School on St. Thomas,

and as a daycare supervisor and elderly program director with the Virgin Islands Department of Human Services. Currently, she is a part-time professor at the University of the Virgin Islands.

At yesterday's hearing, held at the Earl B. Ottley Legislative Hall, Mrs. Hewitt, who is also a member of the Virgin Islands Port Authority Governing Board, said she would work to educate the public on banking matters, as well as be an advocate for the community.

"As an educator, my focus on the banking board, if confirmed, will be to help educate the public on banking matters such as the importance of estate planning, investments information, banking products, the advantages of deposit and more. I would also help to educate young people on the importance of money management and maintaining good credit," Mrs. Hewitt-Sewer said.

She added: "I will serve as a consumer advocate in encouraging banks to make loans available to local, small businesses, and offer mortgage loans and small loans to all segments of the community by complying with the Community Reinvestment Act, which is a United States federal law designed to encourage depository institutions to help meet the credit needs of the communities in which they operate, including low-income and moderate-income neighborhoods, consistent with safe and sound operations."

Her nomination was unanimously passed by members of the committee.

Feature Image: Laurel Hewitt-Sewer, courtesy VI Legislature.