

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Bryan Heads To Washington Thursday, Will Testify Before Congress Feb. 26

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Governor Albert Bryan is set to travel Thursday to Washington D.C. for a week of meetings with senior White House administration officials and members of Congress, Government House announced via release late Wednesday. Mr. Bryan will also be attending the annual National Governor's Association (N.G.A.) Winter Meeting, and will testify before Congress during the trip.

According to Government House, Mr. Bryan will participate in a senior plenary session of the Interagency Group on Insular Areas, where he, along with governors from the other U.S. territories, will outline their federal priorities with the leadership of the U.S. Department of Interior.

He will testify before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources during a hearing to examine the state of U.S. territories on Feb. 26 on Capitol Hill.

“I am looking forward to this week in Washington, first to meet with governors from across the nation to share ideas and explore opportunities for collaboration, but more importantly, to continue the push in Congress for its continued support for our recovery and other needed-federal resources,” the territory's leader said.

Former Governor Kenneth Mapp testified before Congress in November 2017 following the deadly and destructive Hurricanes Irma and Maria, and [was lauded for his effort in winning over](#) reluctantly Congresspeople weary of providing billions of dollars of aid to U.S. Virgin Islands leaders.

The N.G.A., founded in 1908, provides a bipartisan forum for governors to exchange views and share best practices. It also serves to identifies priority issues and works with governors to establish bipartisan positions to influence key federal policies, develops innovative solutions to state policy challenges and provides tailored technical assistance to governors. It is headquartered in Washington, D.C.

Lieutenant Governor Tregenda Roach will serve as acting governor until Mr. Bryan returns on February 27, Government House said.