

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Senators Advance Bill To Close Loophole In Five-year Moratorium of Gas Stations

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On Tuesday, the Committee of Disaster and Recovery voted unanimously to send Bill 34-0010 which is to have the Commissioner of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources impose a moratorium on permits for the construction of gas stations in the territory.

While the initial bill was signed into law in [January](#) it only covered the issuance of licenses in the territory

The bill moved swiftly through the committee as most of their concerns were minor and they understood that to achieve the true intent of the original bill they would need to stop construction not just licenses for gas stations.

Janelle K Sarauw, who sponsored the bill said they had to close the loophole “to protect the remaining land we have in the territory.”

In DPNR’s testimony Keith Richards, Assistant Commissioner at the Department of Planning and Natural Resources said “The language in Bill No. 34-0010 with some recommended changes will provide for the coordination necessary to allow all Government Agencies to fulfill the intent of Act 8427.”

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