

## Frett-Gregory Reinstates Legislative Youth Council; Membership Application Now Being Accepted

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Donna Frett-Gregory, president of the 34th Legislature has reinstated the Legislative Youth Advisory Council, according to a Senate release. LYAC is charged with advising the Legislature on proposed and pending legislation, budget expenditures, and policy matters related to youth; consulting with study commissions, committees, and task forces regarding issues related to youth; and conducting periodic seminars for its members regarding leadership, civic, government, and the Legislature of the Virgin Islands.

LYAC consists of 16 voting members and four members of the Senate who will serve as non-voting ex officio members. Presently, the ex officio members are Sens. Samuel Carrion, Janelle Sarauw, Genevieve Whitaker, and Steven Payne, Sr. Ms. Frett-Gregory said it was an "honor to reinstate the council especially at this time as the youths in the Virgin Islands have been impacted

by two category five storms and the Covid-19 pandemic. This unique opportunity to draft impactful legislation is one meaningful way that youth can improve their lives and the lives of their peers in the territory," she said.

According to the release, the Legislature is accepting applications from youth ages 14-23. A total of 16 youths will be selected by a selection committee as authorized in Title 2, Chapter 9, of the Virgin Islands Code. The selection process is inclusive of 8 members from the St. Thomas-St. John District and 8 representing the St. Croix District. LYAC members will serve the legislative term from the date of appointment.

No prior experience is needed for young people to serve, the release stated. However, interested individuals must be a resident of the United States Virgin Islands. Applicants must complete an online application, submit a resume, and a 500-1000-word essay with the topic, "What legislation are you most interested in proposing if you were selected to serve on the Legislative Youth Advisory Council?"

Applicants can apply at the following link: <https://legvi.org/index.php/legislative-youth-advisory-council/>