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Legislature Suspends All In-Person Testimony As Delta Variant Spreads in VI and Several Covid Cases are Confirmed at St. Croix Senate Building

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St. Croix Legislature Building By. ERNICE GILBERT FOR VI CONSORTIUM

Senate President Donna Frett-Gregory announced Sunday that the V.I. Legislature has updated its protocols as Covid-19 cases have continued to increase in the territory. The Legislature cited the V.I. Dept. of Health's latest data, including a notable increase in positive cases and the presence of the Delta variant.

According to the release, effective today, all in-person testimony is suspended until further notice. "Due to the serious health hazard and high transmissibility of Delta variant, this suspension is warranted," Ms. Frett-Gregory. Additionally, visitors to all legislative buildings and facilities must

present their vaccination card or negative COVID test taken no more than 72- hours in advance of their visit, according to the release.

There have been several positive cases in the St. Croix Legislature Building, hence out of an abundance of caution, the St. Croix Legislature Building will be closed on Monday, August 2, 2021, to permit for the testing of all employees and the sanitizing of the building, the release further stated. The St. Thomas and St. John legislative buildings will be open as usual for business on Monday.

“To ensure the safety of Senators and staff, the Legislature is currently working on additional protocols which are scheduled to be completed by week’s end,” Ms. Frett-Gregory. “I continue to encourage all unvaccinated persons to consider getting vaccinated and to adhere to the safety protocols issued by the Virgin Islands Department of Health.”