



# LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Capitol Building P.O. Box 1690 Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas U.S. Virgin Islands 00804

ADLAH "FONCIE"  
DONASTORG

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## New majority rejects bill to audit the Legislature

ST. THOMAS – Senator Adlah “Foncie” Donastorg said he was surprised that the newly formed Majority rejected a bill mandating a complete audit of the Virgin Islands Legislature.

Donastorg brought BR09-0572 to the floor shortly after 1 p.m. during Thursday’s Senate session. The bill is a resolution petitioning the Virgin Islands Inspector General and the United States Department of Interior to conduct an audit of the Legislature encompassing the last five legislative terms. The bill also provided funding to the V.I. Inspector General’s office for the audit.

“Senate President Hill publicly committed to supporting an audit and, frankly, I believed him,” Donastorg said. “I was very shocked that he would renege on his commitment to the people in this regard. Senator Hill made these comments in support of an audit at his very own press conference.”

Donastorg said that when he was serving as Senate President he was aware that some of his colleagues opposed an audit of the Legislature, but that he hoped that fairness and good sense would prevail.

“At times a person’s actions can define their character and today the new majority has defined its character,” Donastorg said. “Can it be any more obvious that games are being played here at the Legislature?”

Donastorg’s bill provided funding to the V.I. Inspector General’s Office for the audit so that the agency would have all the resources necessary to execute a complete audit of Legislative spending over the last 10 years.

“There has not been a full audit of the Legislature in recent memory,” Donastorg said. “This audit is long overdue and I have been calling for it since being sworn in to office in January.”

Donastorg said that an audit is a useful tool for any organization.

“We need to look at what we have done right, what we may have done wrong, and revise any policies or procedures that are not fiscally prudent,” the Senator said. “We should welcome this audit.”

The Legislative Majority voted in block against Donastorg’s legislation.

“Senator Hill and others have called for full blown audits of the Hospital and other institutions,” Donastorg said. “This is total hypocrisy. What happened to the promises of integrity and transparency? They say that a promise is only comfort to a fool and it looks like the New Majority wants to play the people for fools once again.”

Donastorg said he would continue to push for an audit, for the repeal of Act 6905 and for the salaries of senators to be reduced.

“The public should be outraged over what took place today and I urge the people to make their concerns known,” Donastorg said. “There is a true conspiracy afoot to avoid transparency at any cost so that a select few can maintain their political and economic stranglehold on this community.”