

# Legislature of the Virgin Islands

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The Honorable  
**Angel Bolques, Jr.**  
Senator-At-Large  
35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands

**CHAIRMAN**  
Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, & Parks

**VICE-CHAIRMAN**  
Committee on Economic Development & Agriculture

**MEMBER**  
Committee on Rules & Judiciary  
Committee on Homeland Security, Justice & Public Safety  
Committee on Housing, Transportation, & Telecommunication  
Subcommittee on Energy & Infrastructure Development

## **MEDIA PRESS RELEASE**

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### **SENATOR-AT-LARGE ANGEL BOLQUES JR. COMMENDS BIDEN-HARRIS ADMINISTRATION FOR THE FORMATION OF THE OFFICE OF GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION**

**Washington, D.C./Virgin Islands** — Senator-At-Large Angel Bolques Jr. applauds the efforts of the Biden-Harris Administration in establishing the Office of Gun Violence Prevention, a crucial step forward in addressing the pressing issue of gun violence in our nation.

The creation of the Office of Gun Violence Prevention builds upon the historic actions taken by President Biden to combat gun violence. Notably, the President signed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, the most substantial legislative action in nearly three decades aimed at curbing gun violence. Furthermore, President Biden has executed more meaningful executive actions than any of his predecessors, all with the overarching goal of enhancing safety in our schools, churches, grocery stores, and communities. The Biden-Harris Administration has diligently worked to implement the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, a landmark piece of legislation that has already demonstrated its effectiveness in saving lives. This legislation prevents individuals under 21 from purchasing firearms, equips the Justice Department with enhanced tools to prosecute firearms traffickers, improves access to mental health services in schools to address the trauma resulting from gun violence, and invests in community violence interventions.

Moreover, the Administration has introduced numerous executive actions aimed at reducing gun violence, including efforts to keep dangerous weapons and repeat shooters off the streets, hold rogue gun dealers and traffickers accountable, provide law enforcement with necessary resources, and address the root causes of gun violence. The recent proposal by the Justice Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to enhance background checks is a crucial step in this direction. President Biden continues to call on Congress to take further actions, including banning assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, requiring safe storage of firearms, implementing universal background checks for all gun sales, eliminating gun manufacturers' immunity from liability, and enacting the Safer America Plan. This comprehensive approach emphasizes the importance of policing and investment in gun violence prevention and intervention.

Senator-At-Large Angel Bolques Jr. stands firmly with the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to addressing gun violence and commends their relentless efforts to make all communities safer. The establishment of the Office of Gun Violence Prevention represents a significant milestone in our collective mission to reduce the scourge of gun violence in America and its Territories.

In closing, Senator-At-Large Angel Bolques Jr. extends his heartfelt gratitude to the Biden-Harris Administration for their unwavering commitment to addressing the urgent issue of gun violence. Senator Bolques stands ready to work collaboratively with his colleagues in the 35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands, our Honorable Delegate to Congress, and the Office of the Governor of the Virgin Islands to continue the fight against gun violence here in our territory. Together, we can enact meaningful reforms, ensure responsible gun ownership, and protect the lives of our citizens. Let us remember that pursuing a safer

Virgin Islands is a shared goal transcending partisan lines; through unity and concerted effort, we can truly make a difference.

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