

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**SENATOR KENNETH L. GITTENS**

IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**SENATOR KENNETH L. GITTENS AND 30<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE COLLEAGUES TAKE STEPS TO  
ADDRESS THE INSTABILITY OF EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP AT THE  
GOVERNOR JUAN FRANCISCO LUIS HOSPITAL**

*St. Croix, USVI – July 11, 2013* – Senators Kenneth Gittens, Sammuel Sanes, Diane Capehart and Alicia “Chucky” Hansen met with Dr. Kendall Griffith, the former Governor Juan Francisco Luis Hospital Chief Executive Officer (CEO), today to ascertain the circumstances surrounding his resignation, and later met at the Legislature Building to take steps to address the high turnover of executive leadership at the hospital over the last year, to identify best practices that help get the hospital back on track and to promote more efficient hiring procedures.

“We are actively engaged in these discussions and a change management strategy and action plan will follow shortly,” Gittens stated.

“Constituents across the island of St. Croix have flooded my office and cell phone with calls to re-instate Dr. Griffith, and implement a plan that helps the Executive Branch and the Hospital Board select and retain qualified leaders capable of managing the hospital and its human resources to success,” he said. This work is well underway as Senators Sanes, Capehart, Hansen and I worked feverishly today to draft legislation to dismantle the St. Croix Hospital Board and identify a valid funding source to ensure the hospital’s survival.”

As the senators traversed the hospital with Dr. Kendall Griffith today, there was overwhelming support for the cardiologist who resigned earlier this week. Several employees at the JFL Hospital chanted for the return of Dr. Griffith the CEO. “Their message was loud and clear as they chanted continuously and with increasing volume: Re-instate Dr. Griffith! You’re still our leader,” concluded Senator Gittens.