## **ELECTORAL AMENDMENT BILL (No. 4) 2015**

#### **SAMOA**

## **Explanatory Memorandum**

## **Objects and reasons:**

The Bill seeks to amend the Electoral Act 1963 (Principal Act).

The object of the Bill is to ensure that the 5-year transfer rule also applies to those registered in an urban constituency, as section 16(3) and (4) applies to transfer between territorial constituencies. Once a person is registered under an urban constituency, that person cannot move to another urban or territorial constituency except pursuant to the transfer rule under section 16(3) and (4) of the Principal Act.

#### **Clauses:**

<u>Clause 1</u>: - provides for the short title and commencement. It will commence on the date of assent by the Head of State.

Clause 2: - amends section 19 to ensure that the 5-year transfer rule under section 16(3) and (4) of the Principal Act applies to a registered voter in an urban constituency who wants to be transferred to another urban or territorial constituency.

<u>Clause 3</u>: - repeals section 22 as it is no longer needed due to the amendment made to section 19.

MINISTER FOR JUSTICE
AND COURTS ADMINISTRATION

(Hon FIAME Naomi Mataafa)

# ELECTORAL AMENDMENT BILL (No. 4) 2015

#### **SAMOA**

#### Arrangement of Provisions

- 1. Short title and commencement
- 2. Section 19 amended
- 3. Section 22 repealed

## 2015, No.

#### A BILL INTITULED

# AN ACT to amend the Electoral Act 1963 ("principal Act").

- **BE IT ENACTED** by the Legislative Assembly of Samoa in Parliament assembled as follows:
- **1. Short title and commencement**-(1) This Act may be cited as the Electoral Amendment Act (No. 4) 2015.
- (2) This Act commences on the date of assent by the Head of State.
- **2. Section 19 amended** For section 19 of the principal Act, after subsection (2) add:
  - "(3) Section 16(3) and (4) applies to a registered voter in an urban constituency if the voter wishes to be transferred to another urban or territorial constituency.
  - (4) As an exception to section 16(3) and (4), a registered voter in a territorial constituency may, at any time, be transferred to an urban constituency if the voter is qualified for registration in that urban constituency.".

**3. Section 22 repealed** - Section 22 of the principal Act is repealed.