

SAMOA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

PARLIAMENT PROCEEDINGS FOR THE NEW PARLIAMENT
(PARLIAMENT XVI)*FRIDAY, 18TH MARCH 2016.*

Pursuant to the Proclamation from His Highness, O Le Ao o le Malo given on the 15th of March 2016, members of the Legislative Assembly met at 9:00am

CLERK: Pursuant to Parliament of Samoa Standing Orders, I will conduct our proceedings until a member of this Parliament is appointed to be the Speaker of the House.

Prayer:

CLERK: Lo matou Atua e, e lē tuāluaina lou Silisiliese, auā e fou ma mou aula'igatagata ma tupulaga, ae tumau Oe lo matou Atua e Toatasi, ma Lau Pule Tutasi.

Faafetai lo matou Atua, auā e tau mafaua'i ma fou sa matou upu, a u'a E silafia o matou loto. A ausulua'i foi le faatauvaa ma le lē atoatoa o le tagata, e faapaleina Oe i Lou viiga ma le faaneetaga, e faapalepale lava Lou alofa ma Lau faafofogaaga.

E opomoa ai loto i le faafetai vivii atu ia te Oe, auā o Oe o lo matou Atua Pule Aoao, e tu Lau Pule e faia Lau Pule, ma iloatino Lau Pule, e pei o lenei taeao. Ma mafua ai le alaga i le agaga lofitūina – ina ia faapaleina pea Oe i Lou Silisiliese ma Lou Matagofie, auā ua matou molimau pea i aso uma, i vavega o Lou alofa tunoa, ma le matalasi o Lou alofa faasoa mai.

Faafetai foi mo Lou filemu, auā ua taia le vaai ma le faalogo i le soifua mafatia ma le sauaina, i isi atunuu o le lalolagi, ae ua E aumai lava le nuu lelei ma faamanuiaiina, matou te ola saoloto ai, e tapuai atu ai, ia te Oe lo matou Atua.

18 MARCH 2016

Le Alii lelei e, e malama mea uma i Lou pupula, e leai foi so matou lafitaga mai Lau silafaga ati. A ua lē ma vaoia lava le loto faafetai, auā ana le seanoa Lau Afio – o le vaa sii vale lo matou ola, o le malaga sii vale foi le olaga, auā e leai se uiga ma se mafuaaga, e leai foi se faamoemoega ma se taunuuga manuia.

Ana le seanoa Lou alofa tunoa, ma Lou alofa mutimutivale – e leai se Faaolataga ia Keriso Iesu, poo ua muta foi Lou faapalepale mai ma liliuese Ou Fofoga – ona o le faula'i o matou sese ma faaletonu. Ana le seanoa foi Lou Aao ta'ita'i ma puipui – e leai so matou afaga pe ā feagitafulu le matagi, e lē aunoa foi ma le fememeai pe ā oso le peauvale ma afemoeina le malaga.

Ana le seanoa foi le maotinoia ia te Oe – e talia gata, e sili Lou silafia o mea matou te lelei ai, e leai ai se atuatuvaale, o a fitā o le savaliga o tofotofoga ia o lo matou ola faatuatua, ma E faamalosi i lo matou vaivai. Ana le seanoa foi Lou faamaoni – e leai se onosai, auā e puupuu la matou vaai faaletagata, ae o ā mea ua matou maua i lea aso ma le aso, e lagona le loto faafetai, auā e sili manatu ua e manatu mai ai, e sili foi Lou silafia o mea matou te lelei ai. Ae o Lou faulai ma lou alofa le mavae, e faafaupue mai ai Au faamanuiaga ma Au meaalofo, e leai ai se mea matou te mativa ai, auā e fou ma agilaufofola Lou alofa ma Lou agalelei i aso uma.

Ae ua se taeao na faatili faatali ia te Oe lo matou Atua lenei taeao, ua se aso foi na tafili lafoa'i atu ia te Oe lo matou Atua lenei aso, auā matou te le'i faatogamamate, ae sa vaavaai atu ma le maotinoia Samoa ia te Oe, le Faavae o Samoa – auā Lau faasoa valaau ma Lau valaau faasoa, i ni Au aunana e fai ma o matou Taitai.

O tofiga a Oe lo matou Atua, lea ua matou patipatia i lenei taeao, ina ua tautai'e le faigā filifiliga a Samoa, i Lau faatonufoiau ma le musumusuga a Lou Agaga, e i ai lenei taeao, ma mafua ai le loto faafetai.

Matou te tuuina atu ai o matou Taitai ia te Oe lo matou Atua – ina ia faa-
aupegaina e Lau Afioi latou, e tusa o Au tofiga. Ae sili ona leoleoina le latou tofā e Au Afioa, ma mamana i papā-aano o latou loto, o Au tofiga lo latou valaauina, auā o Lau Afio e te faatuina pule ma e aveesea pule, auā o Lau lava pule na tō mai ia te Oe, Lē Pule Aoa.

O ai foi ua E tofia, e avee ma Fofoga Fetalai ma Sui Fofoga Fetalai, Palemia ma Minisita o le Kapeneta, e faapena foi a matou talotaloga Lau Afio.

Ia 'aua lava ne'i tuuaunoaina loto o matou Ta'ita'i e le mana o Lou Agaga, ina ia sa'o ma tonu a latou faaiuga fai, ae aliali ai Lou mamalu Silisiliese i lo latou soifua, ma tinitau le atoaga o le uiga ma le faamoemoe o le ola, na E foai mai – o i matou o laau o Lau faatoaga, na totōina mo Lou viiga – ina ia viia ai pea, lava pea Lau Afio, i aso uma o lo matou ola.

Ae sili ai, ona 'aua lava ne'i galo ia i matou uma taitoatasi, Lau faamasinoga tonu, e taitasi ona matou tutū ai i se taimi, i Ou luma, e tali atu, e tusa o Au tofiga ma lo matou valaauina.

18 MARCH 2016

Warrant of Appointment

Faamanuia tele mai Oe faamolemole i lenei aofia, faapea si o matou atunuu tapuai mai, ae o ia mea uma ia iu atu ai le viiga ia te Oe lo matou Atua. Ae matou te fia tatalo i le tatalo na E a'oa'o mai ... Ona o Lou lava Suafa Iesu. Amene ma Amene.

Lo matou Tama oi le lagi,
 Ia paia lou Suafa,
 Ia oo mai lou Malo,
 Ia faia lou finagalo i le lalolagi e pei ona faia i le lagi,
 Ia e foai mai ia te i matou le aso nei a matou mea e ai e tatau ma le aso,
 Ia e faamagalo ia te i matou a matou agasala e pei o i matou foi ona matou faamagaloina atu i e ua agaleaga mai ia te i matou,
 Aua foi e te taitaiina i matou i le faaosoosoga,
 A ia e laveai ia i matou ai le leaga,
 Aua e Ou le Malo ma le Mana,
 Atoa ma le viiga e faavavau lava. Amene.

“WARRANT OF APPOINTMENT

IN ACCORDANCE with Section 54 of the Electoral Act 1963, I, TUI ATUA TUPUA TAMASESE EFI, O Le Ao o le Malo, hereby issue a Warrant of Appointment for the aforementioned candidate as an official Member of Parliament of the Independent State of Samoa:

Afioga LAUTAFI Fio Selafi Purcell

GIVEN BY my hand in Apia this day 15th February, 2016.

(Signed) Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi
O LE AO O LE MALO."

WARRANT OF APPOINTMENT

IN ACCORDANCE with Section 54 of the Electoral Act 1963, I, TUI ATUA TUPUA TAMASESE EFI, O Le Ao o le Malo, hereby issue a Warrant of Appointment for following Members for the Parliament of the Independent State of Samoa:

TUILAEPA Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Neioti Aiono Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi.
FIAME Naomi Mataafa.

18 MARCH 2016

Warrant of Appointment

AMITUANAI Fagaivalu Kenrick Samu.

GIVEN BY my hand in Apia this day 11th March, 2016.

(Signed): **Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi**
O LE AO O LE MALO.

WARRANT OF APPOINTMENT

IN ACCORDANCE with the provisions of Part 80 of the Electoral Act 1963, **I, TUI ATUA TUPUA TAMASESE EFI**, O Le Ao o le Malo, issue this Warrant of appointment to those, whose names are listed below who have been duly elected to be Members of the XVI Parliament of the Independent State of Samoa.

1. AEAU Peniamina Leavaiseeta
2. AFAMASAGA Lepuia Rico Tupai
3. AFOA Amituanai Faleulu Mauli
4. ALAIASA Moefaaouo Malagaitutogiai Sepulona Moananu
5. ALIIMALEMANU Alofa Tuuau
6. AUMUA Isaia Lameko
7. FAALOGO Iosefa Sopi
8. FAAOLESA Katopau T. Ainuu
9. FAASOOTAULOA Pati Taulapapa
10. FAAULUSAU Rosa Duffy-Stowers
11. FAIMALOTOA Kika Iemaima Stowers
12. FAUMUINA Asi Pauli Wayne Fong
13. FAUMUINA Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga
14. FUIMAONO Te'o Samuelu Te'o
15. GATOLOAIFAANA Amataga Alesana Gidlow
16. ILI Setefano Taateo Tafili
17. LAAULI Polataivao Leuatea
18. LAUOFO Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Lauofo
19. LEAANA Ronnie Posini
20. LEALAILEPULE Rimoni Aiafi
21. LEAUPEPE Taimaiono Toleafoa Faafisi
22. LENATAI Victor Fafoi Tamapua
23. LOAU Sola Keneti Sio

18 MARCH 2016

Welcome Address by the Clerk

24. LOPAOO Natanielu Mua
25. MULIPOLA Leiataua Laki
26. NAFOITOA Talaimanu Ketu
27. NONU Lose Niumata
28. OLO Fiti Afoa Vaai
29. PAPALIITELE Niko Lee Hang
30. PAU Sefo Taumata Pau
31. PESETA Vaifou Tevagaena
32. SALA Fata Pinati
33. SALAUSA John Ah Ching
34. SEIULI Ueligitone Seiuli
35. SILI Epa Tuioti
36. SOOALO Umi Feo Mene
37. SULAMANAIA Fetaiai Tauiliili Tuivasa
38. TAEFU Lemi
39. TAFUA Maluelue Tafua
40. TAPULESATELE Mauteni Tamasone Metuli II Esera
41. TIALAVEA Fea Leniu Tionisio Hunt
42. TOFA Foleni Lio Tama Galu
43. TOLEAFOA Ken Vaafusuaga Poutoa
44. TOOMATA Aki Tuipea
45. TUIFAASISINA Misa Lisati Leleisuiuo Palemene
46. TUITAMA Talalelei Tuitama

GIVEN BY my hand in Apia this day 11th March, 2016.

(Signed): Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi
OLE AO OLE MALO.”

The list of Members of Parliament was tabled before the Legislative Assembly given the Warrant of Appointment.

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE CLERK

CLERK: This day and morning is sacred. It is because of the blessings and love of our Heavenly Lord as witnessed and seen this morning. The Tiafau malae is sacred, the land where the covenant of the Lord and Samoa was initiated – ‘Samoa founded in God.’

18 MARCH 2016

Election of Speaker

The Parliament of Samoa is dignified because of the gathering of the chosen Members for the XVI Parliament, of the Independent State of Samoa. Least we will not forget the prayers and support of the servants of God, the continuous support of the various entities of Government, and the Judiciary to the work of Parliament and the administration body.

I also like to specially acknowledge the dignity of *le paia i Aiga ma a latou Tama, Pule ma Tumua, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga i le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti. Tainane le tapuaiga a Sua ma le Vaifanua, Fofu ma Aitulagi, Saole ma Saleaumua ma le Launiu Saelua, Le Laau na Amotasi, Faatui o le Motu ma Tootoo o le Faleula, ma Upu i le Manuatele*. We are blessed with the presence of representatives of Government and foreign dignitaries to Samoa like the body of the man who slept at Utumoe we are now complete.

Therefore given the opportunity put upon me to voice the Proclamation from His Highness O Le Ao o le Malo, together with the endorsement of the Speaker and the Hon Prime Minister and Members, on behalf of all Samoa I welcome all Members of Parliament chosen for the XVI Parliament of the Independent State of Samoa.

Prayers of the heart, may your calling and service into this Parliament be guided by the Lord Almighty in order to fulfill your duties for the benefit of Samoa and its nation. May the Lord grant Members the wisdom and strength and bring blessings and peace upon Samoa, and may his name be praised and glorified in everything that you do. There will come a time when we will take our leave, I pray for the Lord's guidance and protection upon us. Bless our gathering here this morning especially the support of all Samoa listening in to the proceedings.

The Clerk welcomed Members of the New Parliament as announced in the Warrant of Appointment.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

CLERK: I want to inform the House that O Le Ao o le Malo wishes for the Assembly to endorse the Speaker and Deputy Speaker pursuant to Articles 49 and 50 of the Constitution.

ENDORSEMENT OF THE SPEAKER

CLERK: I would like to announce that I have received an Official Notice from the Human Rights Protection Party (HRPP) Leader together with Members as follows:

18 MARCH 2016

Election of Speaker and Deputy Speaker

Human Rights Protection Party,

For the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly,

ELECTION OF SPEAKER AND DEPUTY SPEAKER

CLERK: I wish to announce the names of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker elected, as stated in the endorsement pursuant to Articles 49 and 50 of the Constitution, the Speaker is Afioga Hon Leaupepe Taimaiono Toleafoa Faafisi, and Deputy Speaker, Tofa Nafotoa Talaimanu Ketu.

For the endorsement of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker I will announce the warrant given, I humbly ask Members of Parliament, to take the floor to confirm your names when called.

1. Hon. TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI NEIOTI AIONO Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi
2. Hon. FIAME Naomi Mataafa
3. Hon. LAAULI Leuatea Polataivao Fosi Schmidt
4. Hon. FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE Liuga
5. Hon. LAUOFO FONOTOE NUAFESILI Pierre Laufofo
6. Hon. LAUTAFI Selafi Fio Purcell
7. Hon. TUITAMA Talalelei Tuitama
8. Hon. SALA FATA Pinati
9. Hon. PAPALIITELE Niko Lee Hang
10. Hon. GATOLOAIFAANA Amataga Alesana-Gidlow
11. Hon. LEAUPEPE Toleafoa Faafisi
12. Hon. FAASOOTAULOA Pati Taulapapa
13. Hon. AEAU Peniamina Leavaiseeta
14. SULAMANAIA Fetaiai Tauilili Tuivasa
15. LENATAI Victor Fafoi Tamapua
16. FAAOLESA Katopau T. Ainuu
17. SALAUSA John Ah Ching
18. FAUMUINA ASI PAULI Wayne Fong
19. LALAILEPULE Rimoni Aiafi
20. LOAU Solamalemalo Keneti Sio
21. SEIULI Ueligitone Seiuli
22. AFAMASAGA Lepuiai Rico Tupai
23. MULIPOLA LEIATAUA Laki
24. TAEFU Lemi
25. TOLEAFOA Ken Vaafusuaga Poutoa
26. LEAANA Ronnie Posini

18 MARCH 2016

Warrant of Appointment Prime Minister

27. NONU Lose Niumata
28. FAALOGO Iosefa Sopi
29. FUIMAONO Samuelu Te'o
30. AUMUA Isaia Lameko
31. AMITUANAI Fagaivaalu Kenrick Samu
32. TAFUA Maluelue Tafua
33. TIALAVEA FEA LENIU Tionisio Hunt
34. ALAIASA MOEFAAUOUO Sepulona Moananu
35. SILI Epa Tuioti
36. PAU Sefo Taumata Pau
37. TOFA Foleni Lio
38. PESETA Vaifou Tevagaena
39. NAFOITOA Talaimanu Ketu
40. FAIMALOTOA Kika Stowers
41. SOOALO Umi Feo Mene
42. LOPAOO Natanielu Moor
43. TAPULESATELE Mauteni Esera Tamasona Metuli II Esera
44. ALIIMALEMANU Alofa Tuuau
45. TOOMATA Aki Tuipea
46. AFOA AMITUANAI Faleulu Maui
47. TUIFAASISINA MISA Lisati Leleisiuao Palemene
48. OLO Fiti Afoa Vaai
49. ILI Setefano Taateo Tafili
50. FAAULUSAU Rosa Duffy-Stowers.

WARRANT OF APPOINTMENT PRIME MINISTER

For the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly,

**LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS
PROTECTION PARTY (HRPP) FOR THE XVI PARLIAMENT
OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA**

In accordance with the Standing Orders 20 of the Parliament of Samoa, I hereby declare the signatures of 47 Members of the Human Rights Protection Party (HRPP) as collectively stated in electing the two Members as the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Human Rights Protection Party for the XVI Parliament of Samoa.

18 MARCH 2016

Warrant of Appointment Prime Minister

LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER:

**Leader: Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Neioti Aiono Dr.
Sailele Malielegaoi.**

Deputy Leader : Hon Fiamē Naomi Mataafa.

1. Hon. TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI NEIOTI AIONO Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi
2. Hon FIAME Naomi Mataafa
3. Hon LAAULI Leuatea Polataivao Fosi Schmidt
4. Hon FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE Liuga
5. Hon LAUOFO FONOTOE NUAFESILI Pierre Lauofo
6. Hon LAUTAFI Fio Selafi Purcell
7. Hon TUITAMA Talalelei Tuitama
8. Hon SALA FATA Pinati
9. Hon PAPALIITELE Niko Lee Hang
10. Hon GATOLOAIFAANA Amataga Alesana Gidlow
11. Hon LEAUPEPE TOLEAFOA Faaifisi
12. Hon FAASOOTAULOA Pati Taulapapa
13. SULAMANAIA Fetaiai Tauilili Tuivasa.
14. LENATAI Victor Faafoi Tamapua.
15. FAAOLESA Katopau T. Ainuu.
16. SALAUSA John Ah Ching.
17. FAUMUINA ASI PAULI Wayne Fong
18. LEALAILEPULE Rimoni Aiafi.
19. LOAU SOLAMALEMALO Keneti Sio.
20. SEIULI Ueligitone Seiuli.
21. AFAMASAGA Lepuiai Rico Tupai.
22. MULIPOLA LEIATAUA Laki.
23. TAEFU Lemi.
24. TOLEAFOA Ken Vaafusuaga Poutoa.
25. LEAANA Ronnie Posini
26. NONU Lose Niumata.
27. FAALOGO Iosefa Sopi
28. FUIMAONO Samuelu Teo
29. AUMUA Isaia Lameko
30. AMITUANAI Fagaaivalu Kenrick Samu
31. TAFUA Maluelue Tafua
32. TIALAVEA FEA LENIU Tionisio Hunt
33. ALAIASA MOEFAAUOUO Sepulona Moananu
34. SILI Epa Tuioti
35. PAU Sefo Taumata Pau
36. TOFA Foleni Lio

18 MARCH 2016

Announcement and Motion of the Prime Minister

37. PESETA Vaifou Tevagaena
38. NAFOITOA Talaimanu Ketu
39. FAIMALOTOA Kika Stowers
40. SOOALO UMI FEO Mene
41. LOPAOO Natanielu Moor
42. TAPUSATELE Mauteni Esera
43. ALIIMALEMANU Alofa Tuuau
44. TOOMATA Aki Tuipea
45. AFOA AMITUANAI Faleulu Maui
46. TUIFAASISINA MISA Lisati Leleisiuao Palemene
47. FAAULUSAU Rosa Duffy-Stowers.

CLERK: I call on the Hon Prime Minister for the motion.

ANNOUNCEMENT AND MOTION OF THE PRIME MINISTER

Susuga Hon. TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUUEUA LUPESOLIAI NEIOTI AIONO Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI (Prime Minister): I stand with respect to the Clerk to move a motion, *That proceedings be set aside until the arrival of O Le Ao o le Malo to officially open the XVI Parliament of Samoa.*

Seconded by the Member for Anoamaa Sisifo, Member for Lotofaga and Member for Satupaitea.

Motion approved and proceedings was set aside at 9:29am.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed at 9:30 am.

(Present at the OFFICIAL OPENING OF PROCEEDINGS).

CLERK: O Le Ao o le Malo will announce the swearing in of the newly elected Honorable Speaker.

I call on the Honorable Speaker and the Members for Aleipata Itupa i Luga and Faleata West to accompany the Speaker to the table to take his Oath of Allegiance.

The Members for Aleipata Itupa i Luga and Faleata West accompanied the Honorable Speaker to take his Oath of Allegiance.

18 MARCH 2016

OATH FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Members who swore in their Oath of Allegiance:-

1. Afioga AEAU Peniamina Leavaiseeta.
2. Afioga AFAMASAGA Lepuii Rico Tupai
3. Afioga AFOA AMITUANAI Falelu Maui
4. Afioga ALAIASA MOEFAAUOUO MALAGAITUTOGIAI Sepulona Moananu
5. Afioga ALIMALEMANU Alofa Tuuau
6. Afioga AMITUANAI Fagaavalu Kenrick Samu
7. Susuga Hon. AUELUA Fatialofa Lupesoliai Tuilaepa Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi
8. Tofa AUMUA Isaia Lameko
9. Afioga FAALOGO Iosefa Sopi
10. Afioga FAAOLESA Katopau T. Ainuu
11. Tofa Hon FAASOOTAULOA Pati Taulapapa
12. Afioga FAAULUSAU Rosa Duffy-Stowers
13. Tofa FAIMALOTOA Kika Iemaima Stowers
14. Afioga FAUMUINA ASI PAULI Wayne Fong
15. Afioga Hon FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE Liuga
16. Afioga FIAME Naomi Mataafa
17. Afioga FUIMAONO TEO Samuelu Te'o
18. Afioga Hon GATOLOAIFAANA Amataga Alesana Gidlow
19. Tofa ILI Setefano Taateo Tafili
20. Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO Leuatea
21. Tofa Hon LAUOFO FONOTOE NUAFESILI Pierre Lauofo
22. Afioga Hon LAUTAFI Fio Selafi Purcell
23. Afioga LEAANA Ronnie Posini
24. Tofa LEALAILEPULE Rimoni Aiafi
25. Afioga Hon LEAUPEPE Taimaiono Toleafoa Faafisi
26. Tofa LENATAI Victor Faafoi Tamapua
27. Afioga LOAU SOLA Keneti Sio
28. Tofa LOPAOO Natanielu Mua
29. Susuga MULIPOLA LEIATAUA Laki
30. Tofa NAFOITOA Talaimanu Ketu
31. Tofa NONU Lose Niumata
32. Tofa OLO Fiti Afoa Vaai
33. Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE Niko Lee Hang
34. Afioga PAU Sefo Taumata Pau
35. Afioga PESETA Vaifou Tevagaena
36. Afioga Hon SALA FATA Pinati
37. Afioga SALAUSA John Ah Ching
38. Susuga SEIULI Ueligitone Seiuli

18 MARCH 2016

Oath for Members of Parliament

39. Afioga SILI Epa Tuioti
40. Tofa SOOALO UMI FEO Mene
41. Afioga SULAMANAI Fetaiai Tauiliili Tuivasa
42. Tofa TAEFU Lemi
43. Afioga TAFUA Maluelue Tafua
44. Afioga TAPULESATELE Mauteni Tamasona Metuli II Esera
45. Afioga TIALAVEA Fea Leniu Tionisio Hunt
46. Afioga TOFA Foleni Lio Tama Galu
47. Afioga TOLEAFOA Ken Vaafusuaga Poutoa
48. Afioga TOOMATA Aki Tuipea
49. Afioga TUIFAASISINA MISA Lisati Leleisiuao Palemene
50. Afioga Hon. TUITAMA Talalelei Tuitama

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

“I,, swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the Independent State of Samoa, and that I will justly and faithfully carry out my duties as a Member of the Parliament of Samoa. So help me God.”

MR SPEAKER: In accordance with the honors of His Excellency O Le Ao o le Malo and in compliance with the warrant issued by the Legislative Assembly, to prove that I am Speaker, I give myself in accordance with the wish of the Legislative Assembly for approval by His Excellency, O Le Ao o le Malo.

Afioga Hon TUI ATUA TUPUA TAMASESE EFI (O Le Ao o le Malo): I announce to the Honorable Members that I am pleased to accept and confirm the election of Your Excellency on the simplicity of your appointment to the office of Speaker as the sign of trust in you by the Legislative Assembly in your expertise and impartiality.

MR SPEAKER: Your Excellency O Le Ao o le Malo, I humbly submit gratitude for your approval on my election by the Legislative Assembly. Therefore as a Member of the Legislative Assembly, I request with respect that you confer submission of all the Parliamentary freedoms, including the freedom of debate and the opportunity to heed your assistance whenever required. I give my full strength to protect and apply all Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly.

18 MARCH 2016

Oath for Members of Parliament

Afioga Hon TUI ATUA TUPUA TAMASESE EFI: I approve and support all the powers and rights of the Legislative Assembly such as the provisions of the Constitution and the Acts. I will provide direct access which has been given to me by the Legislative Assembly for the advantages of the proceedings and the works of the Legislative Assembly. May God help you Mr Speaker and Honorable Members of Parliament.

CLERK: I call on the Sergeant at Arms to lay the Mace upon the table of the Legislative Assembly.

(The Sergeant at Arms laid the Mace on the table before the Legislative Assembly).

MR SPEAKER: Before Members take their Oath, I humbly ask that we all stand while I read the Code of Parliamentary Ethics.

(The Honorable Mr Speaker read out the Standing Order 14 while Members of Parliament and citizens of the country present were upstanding.)

“CODE OF PARLIAMENTARY ETHICS

STATEMENT OF INTENT:

It is the sole responsibility of every Member of Parliament to maintain the highest standards of ethical behavior to protect and maintain integrity of Parliament and to make every endeavor to uphold the principles of the Constitution.

The following principles are intended to provide guidance to, and standards against which each Member of Parliament, individually and collectively should discharge their duties and responsibilities.

THE PRINCIPLES:

(1) Loyalty to the nation and its people:

Every member shall uphold the contents of the Oath of Allegiance at all time and maintain the dignity and integrity of the Independent State of Samoa; its institutions and its people.

(2) Respect for the Law:

Every member shall uphold the laws of Samoa and safeguard the principles contained in the Constitution.

18 MARCH 2016

Message from Nofoaalii

(3) Respect for all Persons:

Every member shall treat other members, the public and officials with respect and dignity, honestly, fairly; and acting with integrity at all times.

(4) Proper Exercise of Power:

Every member shall:

- (a) Arrange their private affairs;
- (b) Use any and all information obtained from their public office; and
- (c) Exercise any influence or authority obtained from Public Office, only to advance the public interest and where any potential and actual conflict of interest arises whether in the member's private, financial, pecuniary or any interest the member shall be required to declare that interest and take any steps to remove the conflict or withdraw from the particular process of transaction.

Special Requirements for Ministers and Other Officeholders:

Every member who holds parliamentary office of any kind is required to adhere strictly to the principles outlined above and shall not under any circumstances undertake any decision or exert influence in any form whatsoever in respect of a matter in which the member will derive personal gain or benefit.

SANCTIONS:

Breaches of this Code maybe dealt with by the Privileges and Ethics Committee or as determined by Parliament.”

Thank you, Members may now be seated.

MR SPEAKER: For swearing in of Members Oaths I ask that Members come to the table in groups of five starting from my right until all Members have taken their Oaths.

MESSAGE FROM NOFOALII

Opening Ceremony of the 16th Parliament of Samoa

Ao o le Malo Samoa, Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Ta'isi Efi

18 March 2016

“E sosoo le louloua ma le maninoa”

By God's grace and love we are blessed with the opportunity to gather today in good health to witness the start of a new parliamentary term.

18 MARCH 2016

Message from Nofoaalii

Samoa pays tribute to each member of this new 16th parliament, to your hard work and dedication, to your perseverance and diligence, and to leading a successful campaign. Any national election campaign demands a lot of commitment and sacrifice. We acknowledge the support and dedication of your constituencies; your families, villages, friends, churches and colleagues – both in Samoa and overseas.

Leadership is a duty and a privilege. It comes with great responsibility. It is often said that the test of a great leader is not how you perform in times of largesse, but how you perform in times of hardship, conflict and chaos. We hope that you will not experience any major conflicts and chaos, but no doubt there will be challenges.

On the 26th of May last year, the Honorable Prime Minister announced the budget for 2015/2016. He titled his budget message "*Living within our means*". He advised that this year will be a year for restraint and prudence, and offered an accounting of the government's achievements for the five years prior. He then laid out a plan for spending and for sector and sub-sector prioritization. It is the primary task of this 16th Parliament to assess, negotiate and implement, in the best interests of our country, the strengths of that and future annual national budgets, and their associated implementation plans.

The work of your parliament over the next five years will be greatly assisted by all arms of the state. From our Judiciary to our police force through to each of the other state services, all of which are in place to ensure the smooth and peaceful running of state affairs. I wish to make particular mention here of the recent work of the electoral office. They played a significant role in ensuring that all who were eligible to vote were well informed of how, why and where to vote. Ensuring the legitimacy of elections is important to the credibility of your parliament, and to the continued and long term stability of our nation and its commitment to the rule of law.

Our electoral office, along with our police force and many volunteers, ensured that on the day of elections we experienced no outbreaks of violence. Samoa can be proud of her legacy as a peaceful nation state.

Your Parliament is unique compared to earlier parliaments. You not only have more women parliamentarians but also more new (compared with returning) parliamentarians. In fact, new parliamentarians outnumber returning parliamentarians by a significant margin. This may offer fresh and innovative perspectives on both old and new issues.

18 MARCH 2016

Message from Nofaalii

Our churches and their leaders will also continue to provide you with support and guidance as well as our business communities, the media, national charities, civil societies and international government and non-government partners.

The burdens of leadership need not be borne by you alone. Parliament of course is ultimately accountable for the law making on behalf of the nation. But as individual parliamentarians you need not and ought not to bear the burden alone. It can be shared with your peers within your parties, across the House, in selected committees, special inquiry commissions, and so forth. True sharing, however, means not the shirking of responsibility through menial delegation or the subjugation of minorities but through a proactive empowering of co-operative leadership. This includes building a governing culture that can ensure an openness to debate, to having informed and constructive dialogue (public and closed), to having quality evaluation data and public access to the relevant information (including transparent and regular data collection, evaluation and reporting processes), and to fully engaging across all sectors a professionalism that includes an ethics of care. These are the imperatives of a just democracy and of the rule of law.

Our Constitution embraces the values of democratic government and gives pride of place to both our indigenous and Christian values. You, as the 16th parliament of Samoa, have a responsibility to do all you can to protect the best in our traditional values and in our Constitution. Whilst organizational changes is significant for any society, it is also something that can be manipulated for more negative rather than a positive oversight. We must always be mindful of this. We must ensure that we do all that is prudently possible to prevent any unlawful manipulation or coercion, active or by omission.

The phenomenon of climate change is one major issue in our lives today. It is encouraging to note the budgetary commitment made by the last government to addressing the challenges of climate change. This shows prudence and acknowledges the seriousness of the issue.

Let me end by quoting Proverbs 8 verse 12. Here the Bible says *“I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and I find knowledge and discretion”*. If we are to face tough times over the next five years as predicted, you as elected members of the Parliament will need to search for this wisdom and prudence. A wisdom implicit in our own Samoan saying: “E sosoo le loulouā ma le maninoa” (A calm will most certainly follow a storm).

18 MARCH 2016

Motion by the Prime Minister

I wish you well in your leadership journey over the next five years. As you voyage forward, may you be blessed in your search for God's wisdom, prudence, knowledge and discretion. You will not journey alone. You have the tapuaiga, the prayerful support of the nation – of those who came before, those who are here now, and those who are yet to come. I hereby declare this 16th parliament of Samoa officially open. God bless.

Soifua.

MOTION BY THE PRIME MINISTER

Susuga Hon. TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUUELOA LUPESOLIAI NEIOTI AIONO Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker and His Excellency O Le Ao o le Malo, I stand with respect to move a motion that, *The Speech from Nofaalii be tabled before Parliament.*

Seconded by the Member for Palauli le Falefa and Member for Gagaiformauga Nu.3.

Motion approved and the Speech from Nofaalii was tabled before Parliament.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

MR SPEAKER: I announce the Business, Standing Orders, House and Electoral Committee as provided for in the Standing Orders, to elect Members from parties and Independent Members as follows:

CHAIRMAN:	Mr Speaker
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:	Deputy Speaker
MEMBERS:	Prime Minister
	Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta.

The first session of the Parliamentary Committee will be held on Tuesday, 22 March 2016 for the preparation of Parliamentary work for the year 2016/2017 on the appointment of members of the Parliamentary Committee, and the execution of statutory duties by the Committee.

I humbly call on the Prime Minister.

18 MARCH 2016

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI NEIOTI AIONO Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker I move a motion, *To adjourn proceedings of the Legislative Assembly until 9:00am Tuesday 31st May 2016.*

Seconded by the Member for Palauli Falefa and the Member for Gagaifomauga No.3.

Motion approved.

MR SPEAKER: Before proceedings of the Legislative Assembly adjourned given the motion that has been approved, I request that after the adjournment, let us continue to adhere to some Government orders for the swearing in of the Prime Minister with his Cabinet.

With respect.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside at 10:59am, while Parliament prepared for the Swearing in of the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet.

SWEARING IN OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

Tofa AGAFILI SHEM TATUPU (Clerk of Cabinet): The battle at Faasalele has been fought and won, and those who were victorious have spoken, "Bring that sword, sing it, sing it, for it is so the Creator has inherited all power in the holy city, and the earth is shaken. "For this is the day that God has created, that we should rejoice and be glad. It is my honor to announce Government Orders for the Swearing in of the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Pursuant to Section 34 of the Constitution of the Independent State of Samoa, I call with respect the Hon Prime Minister Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Lupesoliai Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi to come forward to swear your oath before His Excellency, O Le Ao o le Malo.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

"I,being elected and accepted as Prime Minister and member of Cabinet, I swear to the Almighty God that; I will submit to the best of my judgment whenever it requires my notice and advice to the Head of State for the proper administration of public affairs. Independence of Samoa, and I will not expressly or indirectly disclose such matters as Cabinet and the Committee and the Executive Council will discuss and have been put in my secret custody, but for all, I will be a real and true Prime Minister. So help me God."

18 MARCH 2016

OPENING SPEECH BY THE PRIME MINISTER
 SUSUGA HON TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI NEIOTI
 AIONO Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI

Susuga Hon TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI NEIOTI AIONO Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI (Prime Minister): I welcome the respective dignitaries of Samoa in all its honorary salutations. To the Leader of this morning's ceremony, thank you for your words of praise at the start of this new Parliamentary term. His Excellency Le Ao o le Malo, Members of Council of Deputies, the three arms of Government, this is the respect of *Aiga ma latou Tama, Tama ma o latou Aiga, tainane le Usoga a Tumua ma Puleono i Salafai*. To the respective Clergies in the different church denominations in the country, we thank you for your never ending prayers and support.

At the conclusion of our country's elections, the voice of the country is now heard with the election of Members through the spirit of the Lord for this Party to continue leading our country for the next five years. This is evident in the 47 out of 50 Members elected of this Party. This includes a representation of 5 women Members for the first time in the history of the Parliament of Samoa, this is one provision of the Act that has been passed and practiced in the 2016 Election. This is now an outstanding record set in the history of our country. Firstly, this is the first time 5 women Members have been able to be elected into Parliament. Secondly, this is the first time 50 Members have been elected into House so that 5% of women could be achieved. Thirdly, 94% of the Members elected are from one Party, therefore Samoa is now a one Party state. Lastly, the withdrawal of the two non matai seats from the establishment of Parliament now it is a Samoan Parliament with all Members being matais the same as village councils. The Lord is our country, and Government is in the Lord, Tui Atua O le Ao o le Malo, Leaders for the country are under the Lords guidance even the Chief Justice Afioga Tiavaasue is guided by the Lord.

I appease Members for it is the will of God that has chosen a few especially to those who have not been re-elected, I am certain that there is a reason for this outcome.

In such important elections there should always be a Cabinet to carry and continue the work and maintain the set skills. It is important as well to elect new people and those in between it as well as the talent and ability bestowed by the Lord upon them should be utilized for constituencies to be equal. There should also be Senior Members who lead Committees and foresee the issues that are brought into Parliament. There are no varied ways in which we should use our powers to serve our own country because it is not just the Cabinet that requires special skills.

There were only be 13 Ministers of Cabinet and 13 Associate Members who will be announced next week after the first Cabinet meeting, it is unfortunate that there is a shortage of opportunities for a large group of people who want to serve in our dignified positions. The Human Rights Protection Party Members are rich in the various experiences and talents and our Lord has plans on many different ways to use it wisely.

18 MARCH 2016

**Opening Speech by the Prime Minister Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa
Auelua Lupesoliai Neioti Aiono Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi**

Of the 19 of Members left from this Party apart from the Speaker and Deputy Speaker, they will be working in Parliamentary Select Committee together with the 3 independent Members. Therefore 22 Members will be the Opposition that will challenge the Government and ensure practice of Parliament is kept as it is supposed to be.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Ministers whom we worked with in the previous Parliamentary term, thank you for the hard work and your patience. As for today and its proceedings I pray that the Lord will continue to guide us with the work and plans that is expected for us to fulfill.

I will now take the opportunity to name the Members of Cabinet.

PRIME MINISTER: Ministry of the Prime Minister and Cabinet; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Office of the Attorney General; Public Service Commission.

Afioga Hon FIAME Naomi Mataafa: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Natural Resources and Environment.

Afioga Hon LAUTAFI Fio Selafi Purcell: Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour; Ministry of Public Enterprises; Samoa Tourism Authority; Samoa Land Corporation.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA Talalelei Tuitama: Minister of Health.

Afioga Hon SALA FATA Pinati: Ministry of Police and Prisons.

Tofa Hon SILI Epa Tuioti: Minister of Finance, Central Bank of Samoa, National Provident Fund and Development Bank.

Tofa Hon FAIMALOTOA Kika Iemaima Stowers: Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development.

Afioga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO Leuatea: Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Scientific Research Organization of Samoa(SROS).

Afioga Hon AFAMASAGA Lepuiai Rico Tupai: Minister of Communications, Information Technology and Office of the Regulator.

Afioga Hon FAAOLESA Katopau T. Ainuu: Minister of Justice and Courts Administration.

18 MARCH 2016

Swearing in of Cabinet Ministers

Afioga Hon TIALAVEA FEA LENIU Tionisio Hunt: Minister of Revenue.

Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE Niko Lee Hang: Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.

Afioga Hon LOAU SOLA Keneti Sio: Minister of Education, Sports and Culture.

An official written statement will be released at the beginning of next week on full duties of each Cabinet Minister. Soifua and God Bless.

SWEARING IN OF CABINET MINISTERS

Tofa AGAFILI SHEM TATUPU: In accordance to Section 34 of the Constitution of the Independent State of Samoa, I will call on Members four at a time to step forward to take your Oaths before His Excellency, O Le Ao o le Malo.

Afioga Hon FLAME Naomi Mataafa
Afioga Hon LAUTAFI Fio Selafi Purcell
Afioga Hon TUITAMA Talalelei Tuitama
Afioga Hon SALA FATA Pinati

“I,being elected and accepted as a Member of Cabinet, I swear to the Almighty God that; I will submit to the best of my judgment whenever it requires my notice and advice to the Head of State for the proper administration of public affairs. Independence of Samoa, and I will not expressly or indirectly disclose such matters as Cabinet and the Committee and the Executive Council will discuss and have been put in my secret custody, but for all, I will be a real and true Cabinet Minister. So help me God.”

Afioga Hon SILI Epa Tuioti
Tofa Hon FAIMALOTOA Kika Iemaima Stowers
Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO Leuatea
Afioga Hon AFAMASAGA Lepuiai Rico Tupai

“I,being elected and accepted as a Member of Cabinet, I swear to the Almighty God that; I will submit to the best of my judgment whenever it requires my notice and advice to the Head of State for the proper administration of public affairs. Independence of Samoa, and I will not expressly or indirectly disclose such matters as Cabinet and the Committee and the Executive Council will discuss and have been put in my secret custody, but for all, I will be a real and true Cabinet Minister. So help me God.”

18 MARCH 2016

Swearing in of Cabinet Ministers

Afioga Hon FAAOLESA Katopau T. Ainuu
Afioga Hon TIALAVEA FEA LENIU Tionisio Hunt
Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE Niko Lee Hang
Afioga Hon LOAU SOLA Keneti Sio

“I,being elected and accepted as a Member of Cabinet, I swear to the Almighty God that; I will submit to the best of my judgment whenever it requires my notice and advice to the Head of State for the proper administration of public affairs. Independence of Samoa, and I will not expressly or indirectly disclose such matters as Cabinet and the Committee and the Executive Council will discuss and have been put in my secret custody, but for all, I will be a real and true Prime Minister. So help me God.”

Parliament showed respect after the conclusion of the Swearing in of the Prime Minister and his Cabinet.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly adjourned at 11:32am until 9:00am Tuesday 31st May 2016.