

*FRIDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2015*

*Mr Speaker took the Chair at 9.00am.*

Prayers.

**CITIZENSHIP INVESTMENT BILL 2014  
– second reading debate continued- (Day 4)**

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe we have reached the last day of this week and our Lord has been good especially to Members of Parliament. I take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank all Members for your presence this morning to carry forward with our Proceedings as scheduled. I thank you all for the patience since the start of this week from Tuesday until today the shortest Sitting day of the week. I thank you all for the recommendations and opinions portrayed within the House this week. I have a strong belief that we are continuously progressing with our orders of the day.

I want to acknowledge the support of our people in various parts of the country carrying out their everyday duties. I believe that your support is the motivation that has resulted in the good work carried out by this Parliament.

I want to thank some of the Members who have already spoken on the Bill. There is still time for others to voice comments before a response is given by Government.

As I was trying to elaborate yesterday no matter the outcome of Proceedings it is Opposition that differentiates us from other overseas Parliaments. No matter the differences between opinions voiced, it is the Samoan way that we consensus.

I wish to acknowledge the presence of the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet also Associate Ministers. I also acknowledge the Leader of Opposition and Deputy Leader and all Members of Parliament.

We are also graced with the presence of Heads of Ministries and Corporations of Government; we cannot forget the support of all Samoa.

Proceedings adjourned yesterday after the Member for Faleata East voiced the concerns of his Constituency within the House. Therefore I will now give the opportunity to a Member who wishes to comment on the Bill.

I call on the Member for Sagaga le Usoga.

**Afioga MUAGUTUTAGATA FAAMAUSILI AUMATAGI PETER AH HIM (Sagaga le Usoga):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I would like to officially greet the Chair this morning and I praise Heavenly Father for His protection. I humbly greet the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, Associate Ministers the Leader of Opposition and his party.

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**Citizenship Investment Bill 2014**  
**– debate resumed over second reading**

Tomorrow is a short day hence whatever general comments we had I believe we will reach Friday next week, this is upon your discretion given these rare opportunities otherwise let us endure happiness it's a great medicine of life and let peace, joy and laughter be upon everyone and harmonious spirit witnessed in the House but disregard hatred.

Let us heed our work and take our discussion into emphasis regardless of the exchanges we make, we must tolerate respect and humility. Despite the views and expressions made, we must direct this Bill smoothly for the benefit of the country.

Before we disperse tonight, I call the honorabe member for Sagaga le Falefa to conclude us with a prayer before we go to rest.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly now adjourned at 12:57pm until 9:00am Friday, 20 February 2015.*

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**Citizenship Investment Bill 2014**  
– second reading debate continued

I also want to acknowledge our Spiritual Leaders in various parts of the country.

I humbly greet His Highness O le Ao o le Malo and his Good Lady, the Member of Council of Deputies and his Good Lady. These are the salutations of Samoa; *Tumua ma Pule, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga I le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti*. I move with respect to briefly voice an opinion on the Bill deliberated within the House.

Mr Speaker I have been listening to some of the queries mentioned by some of the Members of the House these past few days. I want to thank Members for their contribution to such important discussions.

Mr Speaker this Constituency supports the initiative implemented through the Bill of creating more employment opportunities for our people. I also support the idea that it will increase the amount of local products being exported overseas. Some of the Members earlier mentioned the research carried out by the Scientific Research Organization in creating oil from avocado, perfume and flour from breadfruit. A bid was advertised within the newspaper for an investor to takeover this research that is undertaken by the Organization. I found out that no one has the capital to fund this research by the Scientific Research Organization.

Nevertheless if there are foreign investors that want to set up factories to produce perfumes, flour and avocado oil I will gladly support this venture. There is another issue that I have seen on taro distribution, it has not been long since we started marketing to New Zealand. It has been confirmed that we do not have enough taro at the market. It is starting to become expensive due to the limited amount grown by farmers. Although we are not aware that the exportation of this produce overseas can greatly assist with our foreign currency.

I remember the time when Chinese and Solomon Island laborers were brought into the country to work on cocoa plantations and other plantations under Trust Estates for produce to be sold overseas. Everything went smoothly at that time until the lands were let go and sold. I think some of the laborers retired and others were sent back to their countries. This is how I perceive this Bill, there are parts that is beneficial for our country.

I will not elaborate further on the issue concerning citizenship because most of the Members have already mentioned it and the Government has already given a response. As for the provisions of investments and increasing employment opportunities I support it hundred percent. I am saddened Mr Speaker that the majority of issues raised is made toward Asians. The term Chinese is being thrown around like stones; the opportunity is also given to Germans and British investors. I am not hearing people saying that it is the Europeans causing problems. The only people blamed are the Chinese even if it is a Japanese or Korean they still say Chinese which is quite upsetting. It seems every person with slanted eyes is being called Chinese.

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– second reading debate continued

There are several countries like Singapore, Korea, Taiwan and South Korea located beside Russia that all have this facial feature. It does not matter if the person is Chinese or not they are usually referred to as such, it is the fault of the Chinese. I am a bit ashamed about this at times.

Mr Speaker I was going to speak on the issue concerning investors. Although I have received word that a Regulation is now being drafted to outline provisions that will safeguard our people as questioned by most Members. Nevertheless I recommend that we bring in investors that will be keen in producing breadfruit flour and other research carried out by the Scientific Research Organization. This will create more employment opportunities within businesses in Samoa.

This is a brief opinion in relation to the Bill tabled before Parliament today. I want to thank the Chair for the opportunity, bless our Proceedings.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. I call on one of the Members for Falealili Tofa Tusa Misi Tupuola followed by some of the Members on that side.

**Tofa TUSA MISI TUPUOLA (Falealili):** I thank the Chair also respectable Members of the House this morning. As earlier stated by the Chair this morning it is through the love of our Heavenly Father that we are here safely. I move with respect to voice an opinion of this Constituency in relation to the Bill deliberated in the House today.

Mr Speaker I believe there is not a Samoan that is proud of their country as the saying goes, *“The Tavae bird is proud of its feathers.”* Mr Speaker I strongly believe that Members of this Parliament all love their country. Perhaps this was also the reason why some of the first missionaries to Samoa wrote the song, *“My country Samoa beloved in my soul. You are small and simple yet you glorify in God”*.

This Member and Constituency strongly supports the Bill implemented by Parliament on provisions concerning citizenship and foreign investment. It does not matter what the clarification will be because I believe this is a Bill that will determine a faithful Leader and one who knows the Lord. The question that is usually asked will be what is faith? This is a test of what is yet to be seen. We have predicted what can happen tomorrow but not in the future therefore this Constituency supports this Bill.

I will not speak in detail on the Bill but I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the Deputy Prime Minister for the explanation given yesterday also to the Hon Prime Minister and his Ministerial statement. The issue discussed is now clearly understood. Mr Speaker I strongly suggest that the Committee chosen within the Bill should consider the moral principles of foreign investors especially spiritual beliefs before they are allowed into the country. Secondly it is important to generate employment especially for the young generation as stated yesterday by the Minister of Education, Sports and Culture.

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Mr Speaker and respectable Members of Parliament at the moment most people in the villages are still looking for work. This is the same as my Constituency Falealili which can be verified by my fellow Member, Hon Minister Afioga Hon Tuiloma Lameko. Every day they come into Apia seeking our help to find work. The only response I give them is, “We do not have the authority to give you a job but to find something that suits them for the time being.” If this development will assist in increasing the economy of the country then why would we abandon it? Each Constituency should have a shopping centre which will minimize travelling all the way to Apia contributing to the car congestion. The developments of our country are vastly growing, therefore we should look at possible ways to resolve issues that may arise. We should consider the number of cars we now have in the country, which release gas emissions and result in accidents. These are just some of the few aspects that should be reviewed in relation to the Bill tabled.

Mr Speaker I am worried about some provisions, the Bill should thoroughly consider Clauses 1 to 25 on the effects foreign investment might have on our culture and language especially our lands. I humbly request that the Committee consider these provisions within the Bill.

I would like to elaborate on the conditions for foreign investors to be allowed to invest in the country. I searched on the internet on methods used by Britain in acquiring investors. I found out that every investor into this country had to go through training. This includes learning the English language because they will not accept foreign languages or a translator. This is one way overseas investors will create lies and false accusations to the Committee. This means that the Committee should thoroughly look into these areas especially Arabic and Asian countries.

Even though this Constituency has accepted this Bill we are still concerned of the competency of foreign investors coming into the country. We should look at the business ventures that they propose because it looks like it is the same as businesses overseas. The types of businesses the older generation are likely to contribute too. This includes prostitution activities. Although this issue has not yet being noted if it does happen in future we should not allow these investors into the country. Samoa is a Christian country and it is also founded on God. I recommend the Committee to look into these areas, I am aware that every Bill tabled the first time is not always efficient. There is always the need to amend it from time to time....

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoui:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member speaking; I will give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

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**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** The only issue I wish to discuss is the businesses mentioned by the Member in his speech. This is the exact advice I heeded during the implementation of the Casino and Gambling Bill that was approached by the Council of Churches. A consultation was carried out and I told them that businesses overseas are different from the ones here in Samoa. The ones allowed overseas are not allowed by law in Samoa. This is the reason why we should not worry. We have the Police force to monitor such businesses from taking place and those caught will be brought before the court. We cannot leave it to chance because this world is filled with evil conspiracies. This is the same as what happened to Jesus and his disciples in the end some betrayed him. In case Members might think that this kind of behavior is allowed in Samoa, it is not. I think this business is allowed in New Zealand and other countries. Also it is contributing to the many problems they are faced with everyday but our country is strong in its beliefs because we are founded on God.

Mr Speaker it is the duty of Parliament to foresee and review such issues when deliberating matters in the House. This is the reason why I am certain that these businesses can never be allowed in Samoa.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Hon Prime Minister, I will give the opportunity to the Minister of Education Sports and Culture.

**Afioga Hon Magele Mauiliu (Minister of Education, Sports and Culture):** In consideration of the time of the Member. I will be brief, the issue mentioned by the Member on learning Samoan and English languages is important.

It has taken two years for government to arrange this programme. I am glad to say that the launching of the Institute of Language under the Ministry of Education will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March. It will teach Samoan, English, Chinese, Japanese and German languages and courses. I thank the Member who mentioned this important issue which has given me the opportunity to announce to Parliament this new programme, thank you.

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo (Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour):** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Deputy Prime Minister.

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** I am thankful for the recommendations voiced by the Member. All the areas that I clarified yesterday follow Regulations and provisions of Committee. This is the Committee established within the Bill. They review the investors also we should be considerate that not all people in the world are bad.

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It is true that there are countries that are in conflict and war but not all the people living there are bad. It is the Committees duty to carry out research on proposals submitted, and the investor and type of business they want to implement. As for the suggestion given to not allow a country due to its competency well it will be difficult nevertheless the Committee will look into this matter.

It is quite difficult to try and stop changes that are constantly occurring in the world today, as mentioned by the Member there is a social impact of businesses brought into Samoa. There are Organizations who are in charge of monitoring these changes nevertheless our Spiritual Leaders. They are the ones that teach our children and the public not to be drawn to these changes. There is little that we can do to stop these changes because some of our people are always travelling overseas and when they return their perception is also changed. This also applies to peoples beliefs that are closely monitored. This is where the term due diligence is applied because there are people who create problems and those who do not believe in God by having a different belief.

These are the areas that are investigated thoroughly before an opportunity is given to an investor.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Deputy Prime Minister. I now give the opportunity to Tofa Tusa Misi Tupuola to continue.

**Tofa TUSA MISI TUPUOLA:** Mr Speaker I want to thank the Hon Prime Minister, the Hon Minister and Deputy Prime Minister for the clarifications given in response to queries voiced. The recommendations stated are just measures to ensure the improvement of the work of this Parliament and its future plans.

Mr Speaker I strongly believe that there are not enough Members in the Committee in the established by the Bill. There should be more Members. I recommend that Members involved should be from the Attorney Generals Office, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health. This should be reconsidered so that all areas can be involved in the Bill tabled. The people will be confident because the Committee will be strong. I personally believe that the Committee will be the one to implement this Bill.

Mr Speaker we should also reconsider appeals as stated within the Bill, there is an appeal to re-elect another new lawyer. Also it should be someone that has eight years of work experience. I wanted to ask what the Attorney General is going to do. Even though the Office of the Attorney General is busy most of the time, I believe he should be one that should be trusted with this responsibility.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo (Faleata East):** Mr Speaker a point of clarification.

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**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member; I call on the Member for Faleata East.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** Thank you Mr Speaker also I want to thank the Member for the opinion given. I have heard from his speech that the Member for Falealili supports the selling of citizenship as established in the Bill. I just want to understand the Deputy Prime Minister has already said that Members of the Committee are trustworthy....

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member I will give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** This is the reason for conflict; listening to conspiracy which also misleads the intention of the Bill. I stand with respect to advise the Member to not take his words lightly. It will only result in conflict; also we are not selling any citizenship. It seems these accusations are made constantly hence it has been quite a bothersome to Cabinet. I am well aware that conspiracy is a means to not support the Bill. Does this mean that you do not want to find employment for our children because this is the objective of the Bill? If you do not want to accept it then why did you become a Member of Parliament?

Mr Speaker this is the issue, opinions voiced within the House should not be made lightly.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II (Leader of Opposition):** Mr Speaker I am saddened by the speech given by the Hon Prime Minister. What is being indicated by the Bill? It wants investment in exchange for citizenship. The investment is not given freely, it is a campaign for our country. We are only telling the truth because it is exactly what is happening.

**MR SPEAKER:** The matter is now understood. It took all day yesterday to clarify the purpose and title of the Bill so that Members will understand it. I strongly believe that all Members were listening at the time. Therefore let us use word by word and not voice other issues. I have been trying to explain this misinterpretation nevertheless the Hon Prime Minister himself has spoken.

I appease the Member because if we were to deliberate the issue it will only result to further entanglements. I recommend that you voice the reason for interrupting the speech by the Member and not mention the term anymore.



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I already reminded the House yesterday on the same issue which was between the Member for Gagaemauga No.2 and Hon Prime Minister. There is no such term stated within the Bill selling passports. This is an issue that should be clearly understood so proceedings will not be prolonged further. There is nothing stated for free hence there is a clear meaning to such terms. If we were to follow the Bill word by word I believe there will be a meaning different from the ones voiced by Members.

I call on the Member for Faleata East to continue with his speech.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** I just want to understand since clarifications voiced by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister responsible for the Bill said that the Committee is trustworthy. Although it seems that you are not a Member because there is another person that you elected? Why would he not adhere to the decision made by the Hon Minister?

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** Mr Speaker, Point of Order.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Deputy Prime Minister.

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** I move with respect before the Member for Falealili Tofa Tusa Misi Tupuola continues with his speech. If we read the provisions under the Citizen Investment Committee it states “Committee may invite any person of any statutory body to advise or assist their work”. The problem here is no one is reading the Bill, if they did I believe no one would have to stand and speak on such matters.

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe the explanation given by the Hon Minister is made towards the query raised by the Member for Faleata East. It seems the recommendation given by Tofa Tusa Misi Tupuola adheres to provisions clarified. This is the kind of person that should be a Member of the Committee. The recommendation given is effective as accepted by the Deputy Prime Minister. I call on the Member to continue his speech.

**Tofa TUSA MISI TUPUOLA:** Thank you Mr Speaker and Members of Parliament. I will not respond to some of the Members in case it might make matters more difficult. Nevertheless this is my humble opinion with the support of my Constituency on the Bill tabled.

The issue concerning citizenship, there was a Member from my Constituency who called me last night asking, “What is it that I heard in the proceedings yesterday?” I told him, “Do not worry it is just a permit to allow foreign investors into the country without the use of visas, this will contribute to earning employment opportunities for our children and develop our country.”

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Mr Speaker I have already voiced the queries that I wanted to understand nevertheless there is one more issue in an overall relation to the Bill. It has been fifty years since Samoa became independent but my Constituency of Falealili has yet to benefit from a Government development. This involves villages in rural areas such as Safata, Aleipata and Lefaga which consists of the majority of voters. In all due respect what is good for Apia, is good for Falealili, Lefaga, Aleipata and Safata. Mr Speaker I hope this time we will be able to benefit from the developments implemented by this Bill.

**MR SPEAKER:** I apologize to the respectable Member. I respectfully ask that you turn your mic on, please. *(to the Leader of Opposition)*

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** I want to apologize to the Member speaking although I recommend that you speak only for your Constituency. As for Safata it is already developed based on the development of the people. It is now the same as Apia, it has taxi stands and hotels therefore do not worry. I recommend that you speak only of Falealili if it is underdeveloped. Why? It is because of the Members representing Falealili.

**Tofa TUSA MISI TUPUOLA:** Thank you Mr Speaker, I move....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member; I will give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoui:** I just want to clarify an issue. It is not dignified of a Member to stand every time to correct what is not necessary. The respectable Member Pule Lameko has been a Member of this House since 1979 – 1982, 1982-1985 and 1985-1988, 1991-1996. He also holds the record of one of the longest serving Member in Parliament for more than thirty years. There were several Members from Safata at the time that argued with the Member. They did not succeed in these arguments. This is why I deeply respect the Member for his commitment which later resulted to Falealili having two Members. This was also the same for Safata and Salega. He did not give up in developing his Constituency. He retired in 1996 but still saw to the development of his Constituency which has now given benefits to the latest Members.

This is the reason why Mr Speaker. The respectable Member Pule Lameko has served this Parliament for many years. I am not sure whether previous Members are aware of the services rendered. I want to take this opportunity to thank him wherever he may be, I am grateful for the work that you have done for this party.

That Mr Speaker is my announcement.

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**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Hon Minister.

**Tofa Hon Tuiloma Lameko (Minister of Revenue):** Mr Speaker I move with respect to assist with some of the Members misunderstandings especially new Members except Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II, who is ruthless.

I have noted him a ruthless man because it is evident in the speech given by the Hon Prime Minister. I spent a lot of time trying to acquire another seat for Safata, he came back from overseas hence we were both candidates. We had an agreement to divide the votes but I later found out he was the only one voted. This is the exact reason why I constantly recommend the Opposition, “If you want to be the Government then you have to change your Leader.” All your Members are now present but once the elections take place you would be lucky if you get five votes.

Mr Speaker this is a good way to show our opinions. Nevertheless I will not speak further on the issue since there is another Member for Falealili currently taking the floor.

Bless our Proceedings.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you, I call on the Leader of Opposition.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker the respectable Member Pule Lameko has a special place in my heart. I will never forget the hard work he has done for Safata. A Point of Order it is the mentality of the people of Safata that has resulted to their own development. As for the speech given by the Hon Prime Minister this is exactly what we call conspiracy. Therefore the Minister of Revenue let us still carry forward with our friendship.

A recommendation to the Member for Falealili I suggest that you try and develop your Constituency.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Leader of Opposition; I will give this opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** I move to acknowledge the services of the Member for Safata over the past Parliamentary terms. What other development that is more successful than having two Members? There were several other constituencies that requested two seats for Members but it was Safata that was successful. It was Afioga Tofilau Eti Alesana who acknowledged the older Members for their diligence which also included Salega.

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This is why I took the floor to thank the work of these Members but the Leader of Opposition is disregarding it as conspiracy. It is not conspiracy when I am stating the truth.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala (Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure):** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on one of the Members for Safata, the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala:** I move with respect to speak on behalf of my Constituency in case they might think I am not present in Parliament. I want to thank Afioga Pule Tuiloma for his hard work that has resulted to these two seats in Parliament. This means that this constituency contributes more to decisions made within Parliament. I object to the view saying that the Constituency is fully developed, it is not. The Constituency is aware of this and if this Bill is passed it will mean changes that will benefit the various developments in the Constituency. As stated by the Leader of Opposition he is happy with the taxi stands but it was something he objected from Government. If these changes had not been done it would have meant our people would not be able to afford taxis. I am grateful for these changes as seen in rural areas.

With respect.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker I want to reassess the opinion stated by my fellow Member.

First of all, I did not say that the Constituency is now fully developed. I said that developments within Safata has improved but has not fully developed. Why? This has occurred because of you. The Constituency request for access roads. A development that is held within your hands. Why can you not oblige this request? The Constituency is listening in.

As for the taxi stands....

**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion given is duly noted.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** I recall a time when the Minister of Works Transport and Infrastructure was speaking where the Leader of Opposition took the floor. The recommendation he gave was, "Leave the developments for our Constituency for last in case the country might complain." Yet he is stating something completely different this morning.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker what I meant was to leave it last until this year. Do not worry about the Hon Prime Minister because it is now time to adhere to the requests of our Constituency.

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**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion voiced is now noted.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Hon Minister.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala:** In consideration of my Constituency listening in, our country is founded on God. Therefore we are also chosen by the Lord to serve our country. I believe you have heard the request of my fellow Member who has been in Parliament for nearly twenty years; therefore I want to say Rome was not built in a day. It has not been long since I have been chosen into Parliament; further development means the improvement of not only the Constituency but also the country. Therefore I will not listen to him because he constantly changes his mind. The commitment voiced by the Member last year differs from this request that is creating conflict. It is our duty to maintain peace with respect to our Constituency. Bless our Proceedings.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Leader of Opposition, I believe we....

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe the matter is now understood.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** There is one more matter. The accusation made saying I am creating conflict.

**MR SPEAKER:** Yet you have already told the Hon Minister that he is the reason for the Constituency being underdeveloped. I believe this is a mere response...

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** With all due respect to my Constituency. I always request what is good for the Constituency and I am not afraid to do what is right.

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe the issue is now understood. Nevertheless to save the Members time, the Hon Minister of Revenue has also given his explanation on the matter.

Hon Tuiloma Lameko I pray for your patience, the brave is hardly forgotten. I assume the matter is now clear.

I call on the Member to continue with his speech.

**Tofa TUSA MISI TUPUOLA:** Thank you Mr Speaker. As Members of Parliament, the Chair is also aware, the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure is committed to the development of our country.

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Unfortunately we do not have the funds to be able to develop our roads. The reason why I have mentioned this issue is based on the fact that a lot of our roads need improvements. This applies to old bridges and cement roads. The Minister wants to accomplish the development but how? We do not have the funds. This is the matter I was going to discuss before the interruption by the Leader of Opposition. Every Member wants what is best for their Constituency hence my fellow Member the Hon Minister of Revenue is in agreement with me on this, to work together for the development of our Constituency.

Lastly Mr Speaker....

**Tofa Levaopolo Talatou:** Mr Speaker I just want to reassess a minor issue mentioned by the Member.

The Member stated how? The Land Transport Authority has just increased its license fees. Therefore this is the capital that should be used in implementing these developments, it has not even been a year but the costs have increased.

**MR SPEAKER:** The clarification given is now understood, I will give the opportunity to the Member to conclude his speech.

**Tofa TUSA MISI TUPUOLA:** This Constituency has already voiced all its concerns even with the constant interruptions from Opposition nevertheless it is the nature of our Proceedings. I want to thank the Hon Minister the Deputy Prime Minister for the Bill especially Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet. I believe the Bill tabled was drafted with courage and faith in the Lord.

May God bless Samoa. Bless our Proceedings.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member for Palauli as I earlier mentioned the arrangement of Members who will be taking the floor.

I call on the Member for Vaa o Fonoti.

**Afioga TIALAVEA FEA TIONISIO SEIGAFOLAVA (Vaa o Fonoti):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity given to voice an opinion for this Constituency. Before I start I want to point out that this Constituency always requests the development of its roads every Budget deliberation. Ever since the country became independent the roads for the Fagaloa region are yet to be tar sealed. I believe one of the Members stated earlier in the week a visit we were a part of. This is true. The Chair clarified within the House this week that there is a Committee that overlooks Members that come into Parliament. The concern that I had has now been answered. This is the same issue that was discussed also by the Hon Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister.

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As mentioned in the beginning of my speech this is the only Constituency that is not part of the saying, ‘what is good for Apia is good for the rural area.’ This saying does not apply to my Constituency since not a single access road has been constructed over the fifty years since we became independent. I want to thank the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure for work completed at Uafato. I agree with the comment made by the Hon Minister, our duty is to serve all of Samoa not only our Constituencies. A virtuous leader is renowned in his belief in God. Thank you for these improvements, even though not all access roads in Fagaloa and Faleapuna have been improved.

I strongly believe the title Citizenship Investment Bill 2014 is wrong. The reason, it is putting emphasis on the term citizenship. The Bill deliberated within the House portrays a concern of acquiring Samoan citizenship as explained by the Hon Prime Minister and Member for Vaimauga West, Tofa Lefau Harry Schuster. There are more Samoan citizens with this citizenship. Those who have been working within the country for more than five years automatically request for citizenship. Perhaps those are the conditions or rather it might be more than ten years. It does not matter which country they live in, once the five years are complete they get citizenship. The estimated \$4 million is not received by the country they just work and get the citizen for free. There should be safety measures taken to protect this citizenship.

As stated in the Ministry of Finance reports there are 23,000 employees. What investor would want to come to Samoa? I hope we will be able to get investors to invest in our country with the implementation of this Bill. There should be other ways to attract overseas investors into the country hence the need to improve our roads. Fagaloa has a big bay where a wharf can be constructed where a fish cannery can be established, also we need seawalls. The forefront of my constituency is the sea and at the rear are the mountains. It does not take long to walk before you climb which is the reason we need roads and a seawall. Every village within Upolu and Savaii has more than two access roads. Some have seven to eight access roads. Fagaloa and Faleapuna are separated since there is no access road. This is the reason why I am trying to request for roads because it can benefit us in getting more investors. The Minister of Education, Sports and Culture has spoken on the issue we now face with school leavers seeking employment. What are we supposed to do? If this issue continues to take place it will only mean more people contesting for the urban seat. Perhaps it will increase further in the upcoming elections and the next say five thousand there will be more in Apia without jobs. I strongly believe the Bill will be successful if the Committee monitoring and reviewing the Bill do well. It takes five years for every review.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member but I will give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

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**Citizenship Investment Bill 2014**  
– second reading debate continued

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I humbly appease the Member for the matter raised but it does mean that we are disregarding the importance of Fagaloa. Honestly it is a difficult task because the village is mostly mountainous also it will be more expensive. Also constructing an access road towards the top of the mountain will be difficult because of the rough landscape. Nevertheless it is important to mention such requests.

I want to clarify to the country that investors constantly move around, they bring with them ideas which they try and sell to Government. I have noted that Members have requested that these investments should also be provided for the island of Savaii because it seems the majority is located in Upolu. Mr Speaker every business starts small foreseeing whether it will gain profit. If it becomes successful the profits earned will result in expansion. I recommend Members to not give up there will come a time for Savaii and Fagaloa to receive these blessings. The matter does not solely depend on the Governments approval but also of the business owners which is the reason for implementing this Bill. I have with me at my office a blueprint of a project drafted by an Engineering company of the Fagaloa village. It portrays a beautiful town which can be easily accessed by ships which I believe will be a future investment. It outlines some of the plans on how the road will be restructured right below the Mafa Pass where the electricity poles are located. I estimate one mile although the important aspect here is the idea. We will have to implement more ideas to enable this project to push through also the Government is trying its best to find overseas Organizations who might be able to offer grants to accomplish this development. If we are successful in acquiring grants the project will then commence, but as for the roads requested it will be difficult. The mountainous landscape of the village makes it hard to construct any roads through to Uafato. Do not be discouraged because the important aspect is we already have an idea of what to do. It will not cease Government from trying to do what is best; the only issue is the fund to carry out these developments.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member to continue with his speech.

**Afioga TIALAVEA FEA TIONISIO SEIGAFOLAVA:** Thank you Hon Prime Minister for the interruption to adhere some of the requests of this Constituency. There is only one access road at Faleapuna although the main road can be used as an access road. At the moment works have been carried out on this new road with a distance of two kilometers through Uafato. I want to thank the Hon Minister for the improvements. As mentioned by one of the Members yesterday there an investment term of five years which is reviewed by Committee. This includes the review of the Passports Act 2008 in consideration of the work done by these investors. The objective is to attract more investors into Samoa.



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 – second reading debate continued

There is not a single Member who lacks interest in acquiring what is best for their Constituency. This is the only way to assist with our yearly Budget especially to Chief Executives of Ministries and Organizations who are responsible for the work, it will make it easier if we have enough funds if not it will be difficult.

Mr Speaker this Constituency supports the main purpose of this Bill. Thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** I thank the Member for the opinions voiced. I will give the opportunity to anyone who wishes to speak. I call on the Member for Aana Alofi No.3.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER (Aana Alofi No.3):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I humbly greet Members of the House and also the country listening and supporting the work of this Parliament.

Mr Speaker I will try and elaborate my opinion in accordance to the Bill deliberated. I will also try and discuss in detail my understanding of the Bill differing from the clarification given by the Deputy Prime Minister, Hon Prime Minister and some of the Members. I have divided my explanation into three parts. First is the attraction of overseas investors into our country. Second is to implement employment opportunities for the people. Third is the increase of revenue through taxation. A personal opinion on the matter Mr Speaker, I recommend that our leaders think very carefully of the consequences of this cooperation with the outside world. Why? I am aware that this will develop the future of our country but we must be considerate of our lands and our own developments.

Mr Speaker I will start with the estimated population of Samoa. As shown from the statistics there are approximately 180,000 people living in Samoa. The statistics collected from New Zealand states that 150,000 Samoans reside in America. In Australia the Samoan population residing there was estimated between 40,000 to 60,000. An overall estimation there are 500,000 to 600,000 people living overseas identified as Samoans. This means that apart from the 180,000 people residing in Samoa the estimated 500,000 – 600,000 have a say within Samoa. At the moment there are some people who have assisted with developments in the country. Second Mr Speaker is our land. For example 1,097 square meters equals to more than 700,000 acres in Samoa, subtract from it 30-40% of inaccessible mountainous and unproductive land. It is predicted 80% consists of Customary land as stated in the Bill, 15% is Government land estimating to 100,000 acres. Freehold land covers only 5% which can be estimated to 24,000 acres.

Mr Speaker this means 30% of unproductive land in Samoa can be estimated to 60,000 acres, add to it the 100,000 acres of Government land used for several developments which results to minimal land used for investments.

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Mr Speaker land allocations differ between constituencies some are lucky to have small lots of land owned by Government. These constituencies are given the opportunity to develop their own lands. There are other lands for example the Constituency of Faleata West, Vaitele consists mostly of freehold land. The growing population depends on buying these freehold lands with consideration of other government plans. As for the constituencies from Tuamasaga to Aana most of the lands are Government owned from past arrangement. As the population increases these constituencies will need lands as well to settle. An example, most of the people from my Constituency have moved overseas. There will be a time when they want to return to develop their families which means they need lands. This is an issue that should be considered, to allocate lands to our people for future use.

Mr Speaker the objective proposing investment from foreign companies. I will use the country of Fiji as an example, in 1970 to 1980 they implemented incentives for foreign companies to invest into their country. At the moment the majority of the hotels within Fiji are owned by foreign investors. Fortunately the people of Fiji have now gained experience and have earned more from these investments contributing to their own developments.

Mr Speaker in relation to our country I want to use the villages of Manase and Lalomanu as examples. If this Bill on promotion of foreign investment had been implemented earlier it would have seen the establishment of big hotels in these areas. Fortunately these families have the knowledge and capital to establish their own business which started from a small beach fale.

At the moment these tourist attractions has contributed much to our own economy, attracting many tourists into the country. Also hundred percent of the earnings are kept within Samoa. This would also be the same for foreign investors who eventually send their profits overseas.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member I will give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker a point of order. This is the reason for establishing the Unit Trust Organization; it is for these bigger businesses to get a share from the Government funds. This is not a new incentive by Government because it started from the time of the late Fiamē Mataafa Faumuina. This was to attract overseas investors into the country, the Government had to look into ways our people can have shares in these big companies. There were only three big companies established in the country. There was a brewery, the Yazaki and the other one Le Mana which is still operating today. We were worried with our predictions at the time because we thought these companies would take over. The Unit Trust was established during the time SamoaTel was being privatized. This was a decision made by Cabinet to safeguard Government assets because it seemed those who brought companies were mostly the rich.

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At the moment the Unit Trust is progressing really well. Last week they contributed nearly half a million to our Budget to assist with Government developments. I have clarified this issue because this is not something new; the Cabinet has already taken measures to safeguard our assets and local businesses. I recall the time I was Chairman at Vailima I noticed that most of our people did not have shares within this big company. At the moment it is now being privatized by an Australian company, which has blessed us from reducing expenses in importing beer from overseas. Our beer is now locally produced giving our people employment opportunities. The profits earned also assist Government with its funds. Yazaki is another company taking up a small area perhaps only four acres. If ten other Yazaki result from this it will mean four multiply by ten equals forty acres. This is a clarification on the issue raised by the Member, do not try and scare our people. Mr Speaker it is taking up time reiterating the same issue since the start. It is nearly time for our tea break.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi (Faleata West):** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I will give the opportunity first to the Hon Minister of Natural Resources and Environment. I call on Tofa Hon Faamoetaulua Tumaalii.

**Tofa Faamoetaulua Lealaiauloto Ulaitino Faale Tumaalii:** Thank you Mr Speaker. The Member for Faasaleleaga No.2 mentioned yesterday the issue of land allotment in relation to the Bill tabled. Customary lands covers 80%, 15-17% consists of Government land and 3-5% is freehold land. I want to remind the Member that Government lands are not for sale and as the Hon Prime Minister explained there are different leases, this means these lands are only allowed for lease. The lease is dependent on the type of business. If it is an agricultural and forestry development then it needs the consent of the *matai* for it to be leased. Although for Government lands they are leased for tourism business and industrial purposes. These businesses only acquire a small amount of land maybe five to ten acres which is the same as the one leased by Le Mana. This is a clarification in relation to the issue raised by the Member that the Government lands cannot be sold.

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe we have arrived at our usual recess hour. Therefore I appease the Member since it is now three minutes past the time of our break. I want to remind Members that today is a short sitting day therefore I humbly ask that are punctual with our return into the Chamber. I am certain the time given for recess is quite suitable hence we should be mindful that we still have to carry forward with our Proceedings.

I announce that the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly be set aside for its usual morning recess.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were aside for its usual recess at 10:33 and resumed at 11:06am.*

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### Motion to Suspend Standing Orders

**MR SPEAKER:** I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly have now resumed.

I commend all Members since we have reached the second part of our Proceedings. I am confident Members gained strength with the morning tea provided this morning. I want to thank our staff for the services provided in serving tea to our Members this morning.

Even though today is a short day I believe we still have to thoroughly assess our program as scheduled. I now give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

### MOTION TO SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS

**Susuga Hon TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI:** Mr Speaker I stand with respect to move a motion, *That Standing Orders 31(1) be suspended, in order for proceedings to progress forward until the end of the second reading of the Bill, or until 1300 hours tonight until all opinions are deliberated on the matter.*

Before the Question is put Mr Speaker I would like to say a few words in relation to our work since today is the last day of our February sitting. There are still a lot of duties needed to be done which is also awaited by the country. These duties are from within the House especially the requests made by Members towards the Ministers of Cabinet. We have another three weeks before the next sitting and there seems to be a change, it seems we want to have a sitting every time because of the change in environment. The Members seems to be in good moods and do not look tired anymore. Also the opinions raised are clearly heard from this side, where the Government is trying to explain the importance of the Bill. Although it does not stop some Members from criticizing and twisting the meaning of responses, such as the words of one Member Afioga Aeau Peniamina, there are also those who are too afraid to accept it.

Mr Speaker I move to suggest that we conclude deliberations on the Bill and for it to be referred to the Committee. There are still other opportunities for Members and the public to speak on the Bill during these consultations. I strongly believe that Members who are being persistent here are the ones that never follow up on Committee sittings. Once the Committee deliberations are concluded there will be another chance given to Members during consideration in detail to have their say. There are many other opportunities still available for Members, it has taken four days for us to deliberate this Bill. Mr Speaker I have recommended this because there is still a lot of work that the Cabinet needs to attend to especially with lapsed Committee work that should be completed. I have noted within the Order Paper that there are twelve Bills and sixty seven Parliamentary Papers that are to be reported back from Committee.

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These are not small numbers considering this is the last year for this Parliamentary term. Some of the Bills referred to Committee are dated 2013 but it is now 2015 but Reports are not yet submitted. This means that there should be enough time given to Committee to carry out their work. There are some Committees that are yet to submit reports on twenty Parliamentary Papers. I believe our Parliament recalls the previous sitting where the Hon Ministers and I tried, even though there were a lot of Government Responses we still read out the Reports from Committees, what happened? We have not been through half of the responses but Members were upstanding three, four times to pass these Government Responses because they were tired. Although it was them that said Government was not meeting their responsibilities.

Mr Speaker the Government has spent a lot in preparing and printing these Annual Reports. The Cabinet has also spent a lot of its time evaluating these Reports before submission to the House. The House is still waiting on several Committee Reports that are yet to be considered by Parliament.

Mr Speaker I am aware that you know that there are no Committee sittings in the afternoon because it is only done in the morning. There are also conditions governing the Chairperson and Members of the Committee during sittings. We should know that there are nearly seventy Committee Papers that are with Committees and are yet to be submitted into Parliament. The Government has decided that it will move a motion in the March sitting for all Committee lapsed business to be discarded. We will give Committees these three weeks to consider the referred Papers, the Papers that they will be able to present in a Report will be the ones that Government will respond to and the rest will be discarded.

Mr Speaker in the past people were afraid of going way out to the sea because they always wanted to keep sight of the mountains in case they fell off the side of the earth. This portrays the strength of a person and their belief in how they perceive things. If Columbus had not sailed to the other side of the world, we would not have known America. Our ancestors are some of the most courageous people to have ever lived, sailing the seas to find lands, why? They wanted what was best for their people especially their children and future generation of Samoa. This is the foundation of the Government of Samoa to develop the future for our people. Our country is founded on God; therefore he will not forsake us, helping us with our development. This is why it is important for us to have faith. It is our faith in the Lord...

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a point of clarification.

**MR SPEAKER:** An explanation will be given later.

**Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI:** Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen, I will not say which Book of Hebrews it is up to you.

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This is the same faith Jesus told his disciples, “If you have faith the size of a mustard grain, you will say to this mountain, move from here to there and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.” The message Mr Speaker, Leader of Opposition and Members of the House, nothing is impossible if you have faith in God, it is this faith that develops our Government and country. There many other developments implemented by Government that were rejected by Members because they were too scared, but now? Samoa is still developing this is why they cannot seem to decide...

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker is this a Ministerial statement?

**MR SPEAKER:** It is not.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** This is the same speech he voiced yesterday.

**Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI:** This Government will not hesitate to do what is vital for the development of Samoa. Even if the Government is criticized by our people overseas our efforts will not cease especially to do what will develop our people.

Mr Speaker this is the basis of the motion moved perhaps the Leader of Opposition will then understand what a strategy is, so he will be able to understand the matters deliberated in the House. This is the motion Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** The Deputy Leader of Opposition has moved to second the motion.

**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta (Falealupo):** I humbly stand Mr Speaker before a question is put. I humbly request for a response due to the mention of my name. Mr Speaker and respectable Members present here this morning I move with respect to proceedings carried out today. I believe the country is listening in, why? There is a reason because this is a very important issue, why? The implementation of the Bill will greatly affect the people not only now but in the future in maybe another thirty years. This is why I am trying to say....

**Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI:** Mr Speaker the motion moved does not stop us from exercising our human rights. I do not know why the Deputy Leader of Opposition is upstanding; the motion moved is for proceedings to continue until all issues are resolved. Therefore I am uncertain why he is standing I already clarified that there are 70 reports and Bills stated in the Order Paper. It will not be long now before we sit again in the March proceedings.

Mr Speaker the motion moved is quite clear and it does not stop us from exercising our human rights.

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**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** I understand the motion moved but it is a very long one.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Deputy Leader of Opposition but the motion is now understood.

**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** I do not think you do.

**MR SPEAKER:** I understand that you support the motion moved.

**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** I do not believe so Mr Speaker, it looks as if the work of Parliament will be carried out hastily. It is just so the public would hear.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well, your opinion is duly noted.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I want to clarify a point of order, we are not doing anything hastily we have been deliberating for four days now on this Bill. The Budget takes about three to four days to deliberate and now this Bill is taking longer. We cannot force Members to talk if they do not want too. I strongly believe that the speeches given by the Members have thoroughly portrayed the matters raised in relation to the Bill. There are some opinions that are reiterated by Members which should not be allowed in the House. I recall the time when Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina was Speaker, he stated if an issue has already been voiced then why repeat it again?

**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** I believe I said then that Proceedings are not supposed to be rushed considering the well being of our country.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I recall that the Member used to proceed our sittings in a swift manner. He is also the only Speaker who spoke English in the House and chased a Tama Aiga from in the House, is it right? The Tama Aiga who was Leader of Opposition was chased out. Why? This is because procedures and the dignity of the House was disrespected.

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe the matter is now clearly understood.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Leader of Opposition since the Chair will now give a statement. I believe the matter mentioned by the Member is now understood also the House has heard the motion moved by Government.

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### Motion to Suspend Standing Orders

As Members are aware I was the one that stated before recess that we should come back and deliberate proceedings in a timely manner. We have been deliberating the matter since Tuesday hence opportunities are still given to Members even though some issues have been mentioned more than twice. I want to thank the Leader of Government for the motion moved since I wanted to proceed with matters more urgently since our first sitting. It was the Leader of Governments recommendation that Members are been given the chance to comment on the issue because it is important that we voice our opinions. The important aspect is that a motion is now moved therefore we must commence Proceedings on a timely manner because if we do return after Saturday and Sunday we will have to start all over again. It is important that we deliberate matters so that we will be on time with other work that is needed to be done. A motion has been moved those who second it.

*Seconded by the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labor and the Minister of Women Community and Social Development.*

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a point of clarification.

**MR SPEAKER:** The issue is now understood Leader of Opposition.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Firstly the reason why Proceedings have prolonged is the unexpected Ministerial Statements. Second is strategy, does the Standing Order have the strategies that are implemented?

**MR SPEAKER:** All of that is included under Parliamentary guidelines.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** There are no guidelines that uses strategies, the strategy here is our proceedings have been prolonged....look at how it....

**MR SPEAKER:** We might think differently in this situation.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoui:** Mr Speaker a Point of Order. I recommend that the Leader of Opposition read our Standing Orders and look under the part of Ministerial Statements. If a Minister requests an opportunity to make a Ministerial statement they are free to do so. These are not strategies therefore do not complicate the issue because this is our usual manner of proceedings. We deliberate and make jokes but you are the only one being petulant, it is alright to laugh during Proceedings. I see the Member for Falealupo is also laughing so he knows what I am talking about.



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**Citizenship Investment Bill 2014**  
**– second reading debate continued**

**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** Mr Speaker a Point of Order. It is true that a Ministerial statement is given by a Minister but it does mean that we can use it to show a personal opinion. This is not right nevertheless we will commence with the clarification given.

**MR SPEAKER:** I appease Members and I recommend that you leave this duty to the Chair to conduct our Proceedings. Thus it is not a matter that should be reiterated further to respectable Members of the House.

*Motion approved and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly progressed until the end of the second reading of the Citizenship Investment Bill 2014.*

**MR SPEAKER:** Our work is now extended as time has now been added to Proceedings for today. The important issue here is the time and our work carried out should be deliberated with consistency. Also Standing Orders are now implemented meaning each Member will be given 20 minutes to elaborate, I ask that recommendations and issues raised be voiced in a proper manner so that the Government will be able to respond to it once it is their time to answer.

**Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi (Aana Alofi No.1):** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on one of the Members for Aana Alofi No.1, Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi.

**Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi:** I just want to ask, is everyone required to speak? Because there are Members who wish to speak on the issue but some have already agreed on Amendments stated, is it compulsory to speak or should we just listen?

**MR SPEAKER:** I do not believe so, it is up to the Member whether they want to speak or agree and listen.

**Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi:** This means that the time will not be prolonged because most of the Members have already spoken, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** The Chair has noticed that Members who do not want to voice opinions are the ones who support this Bill.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** Since you wanted to speak before recess I will give the Member the opportunity.

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**Citizenship Investment Bill 2014**  
**– second reading debate continued**

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** I was listening to the opinion of one of the Members just now and it seems he does not understand the nature of the Proceedings although he is a former Speaker. We are aware of how Proceedings progress thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** The Member for Aana Alofi No.3? Pardon the Member I will give the opportunity to the Deputy Prime Minister.

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Lauofo:** Mr Speaker before recess the Member mentioned an issue that I want to amend which was explained earlier. Perhaps the Member was not present at the time but this issue concerning tourist attractions at Lalomanu and Manase. I understand the conditions of lands at Lalomanu because my family owns land there, these lands are customary. The Member stated if the Bill has been implemented earlier these areas Lalomanu and Manase would by now have huge hotels. It clearly states in the Bill that customary lands are not affected with this arrangement which includes both Manase and Lalomanu, as seen in Clause 3. This is a clarification and a correction in relation to matter.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member to continue with his speech. The Leader of Opposition.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** In saving the time for the Member since I have asked the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment twice. He said these lands are not important. Although it clearly states in the Bill under Schedule that government lands are allowed to be purchased. The Hon Minister stated that these lands are only allowed to be leased. What is the right answer, what you said or what is written in the Bill? This is the issue I wanted to understand.

**Tofa Hon Faamoetaulua Lealaiauloto Ulaitino Faale Tumaalii (Minister of Natural Resources and Environment):** I humbly ask what Clause the Member is referring to....

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** It is the Schedule at the back of the Bill, Qualifying Investments clearly stated in bracket A. Should I read it aloud? *“leasing and developing of government lands, including purchasing and developing of any prescribed land”* this is the statement that I do not understand.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Hon Minister.

**Tofa Hon Faamoetaulua Lealaiauloto Ulaitino Faale Tumaalii:** Mr Speaker as I clarified before this Bill is yet to be passed because we are currently deliberating it.

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**Citizenship Investment Bill 2014**  
– second reading debate continued

The Cabinet has also made a decision that these lands are not to be purchased. This decision by Cabinet will be implemented in the Lands, Survey and Environment Act 1989. Once it is drafted you will be able to read it together with this Bill then you will understand, with respect.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member I will give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker perhaps it has been two months now since this decision was made and now Amendments are being drafted. The response given yesterday was quite clear and I thought the Leader of Opposition understood. Perhaps he did not gather that they are currently working on the amendments. The Bills drafted goes through the Attorney General where it is reviewed in relation to other Bills so they correlate with one another.

Mr Speaker the Hon Minister clearly stated this and I thought it would not be mentioned again.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a Point of Order. The Bill is clear and it is now deliberated within Parliament to be passed but it seems the Hon Minister is trying to protect it. Mr Speaker I am worried about the lands that are sold since the Government is doubtful on the issue.

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe the matter stated by the Leader of Opposition is now understood the same with the clarification made by the Hon Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker the Government is not doubtful; the issue stated is the Industrial estates at Vaitele. This includes lands in this area as you may recall we did this, do you remember? This includes the area where businesses are being setup at Vaitele. The Cabinet has accepted the recommendation; other amendments given to Cabinet will be submitted later into House.

**MR SPEAKER:** I am confident that the matter is now understood also [there will be further deliberation on the Bill stated by the Hon Minister](#) once it is tabled. This includes the Bill mentioned by the Hon Prime Minister together with the reminder from the Leader of Opposition. The Member for Aana Alofi No.3 you have five more minutes.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity I will not elaborate on the matters clarified by the Hon Prime Minister especially by the Hon Minister.

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My only humble request is to give an opportunity for our people to develop. A recommendation; the Bill should be reconsidered I know that lands are not significant but customary lands can also be leased. It can be leased to build a hotel which is one way that will earn citizenship for overseas investors which is a concern.

Mr Speaker I want to discuss a few concerns that should be considered by the Bill. An example some investors come for development, in New Zealand most of the prices of land have increased and most of the big companies are owned by foreign investors. There is no opportunity for local businesses to compete because of the high costs from overseas and also with the land prices. This is one concern that should be considered in the Bill to stop competitiveness of foreign investors on our lands because most of our people cannot afford high costs imposed on lands.

Mr Speaker there is also a concern such as what is happening in Fiji, one of the foreign companies they use these opportunities for tax payments to overseas countries. They come and run businesses at a loss in the country they do not care whether there are only two or three employees to do the work. They do not earn profits and in their country they reconcile accounts which results to a loss meaning they get lower tax. These are just a few measures we should think about to recommend investors to ensure that they can earn profits and have a lot of workers.

Mr Speaker I strongly believe in putting the development of our people first not only Samoans here but also those living overseas and others yet to be born. I am grateful for the many developments and the Bills implementing opportunities for our people. Although I have a strong belief that once this Bill is passed foreign investors into the country will increase leaving lesser opportunities for our people overseas to set up businesses here.

Firstly Mr Speaker the Government should consider a term of three to five years should be imposed for citizenship. One generation removed from being born in Samoa to attract them to invest into the country. Most of these people are those who have developed their status overseas. An example would be the famous Seiuli Dwayne Rock. They are the ones who earn a lot of money. Perhaps we are not trying hard enough to persuade them to invest into Samoa. We are on a mission to persuade investors from China and Europe but I believe Mr Speaker we are not strongly encouraging our people overseas to invest into Samoa. I strongly believe the investment that is brought into the country by Samoans overseas will greatly benefit the country because they are willing to develop not only their families, villages but Samoa as a whole.

Mr Speaker we should consider overseas Samoan investors but also our local businesses because we now have the PACER agreement, PICTA and PACER. I believe this will be an opportunity for the Government to work together with local businesses and compete with overseas and find employment in the Pacific.

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An example in New Zealand and Australia, competing companies will be easier to be tendered in Samoa. We will also be able to use these opportunities overseas.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member; I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker the opinions given by the Member are quite appealing. I am thinking of those who are now really famous that came to me for passports and visas during the time I had the authority. There are some who have earned really high status overseas that I wrote to for investment in the country especially in sports. They have yet to reply back. This is how life is nowadays once a person is successful they tend to find a place to invest in where they can earn bigger profits. It is easy to voice it but the action part is difficult, even our famous people have not yet contributed to our country. The ideas made by the Member are quite interesting which correlates with the thoughts of the Deputy Prime Minister and Cabinet. Perhaps in the near future we will encounter a person that will be able to make such an investment. No matter how hard we try to contact those living in Australia, America and overseas they still do not respond.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Deputy Prime Minister.

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufofo:** Mr Speaker I want to acknowledge the Member for the wonderful speech. Samoa is one of the first Pacific countries that signed the Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA). There are two types the bartering of goods and of services. This is the whole process as stated by the Member there is nothing new here. As for the other, Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER Plus) it is still in the consultation stages. This is an important matter because we are currently talking about this issue. The other important aspect under PACER Plus is the labor mobility, the agreements between Pacific countries and New Zealand and Australia on employment opportunities. This is an area the Government is currently looking at so that our people will be able to get more opportunities to find work.

This is a clarification on the issue.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member to continue.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:** Thank you Hon Minister this is the reason for voicing the opinion on PICTA and PACER. When I look at the work undertaken by contractors on infrastructure in Solomon, Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea most of the companies are from Australia and New Zealand and are quite expensive.

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It is fortunate that our own contractors now have the skills and knowledge to carry out the work. Why not tender it to them so they can do the work? We should try to find a way for these contractors to compete against companies from New Zealand, Australia, America and Asia because it will be cheaper, also give them the costs. The professional services such as road contractors and consultancy services companies needed in other countries is one aspect that our people here in Samoa should reconsider. This is one way Samoans working for overseas companies will be able to work together with others here.

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** Mr Speaker these are the strategies that are currently being applied today. As for other matters stated on services and consultancy, the Member is aware because he is one of the consultants in the Pacific. Therefore you have the opportunity to work under PICTA to tender work in Solomon, Vanuatu and other countries where you earn income. I humbly ask the Member not to worry about this matter because it is not something new but I am grateful for the reminder. The overseas companies stated such as road contractors this is what the government is trying to do. It looks at the work capacity of the contractor whether their machines can do the work. It is true that we should be cheaper but we are looking at the skills, yet the skill that you mentioned is the one learned from Government work. If you look at it most Government work is tendered nevertheless I am grateful that you have mentioned this. It is the goal of our international agreements that we find opportunities for our people to develop and work overseas.

**Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu:** Mr Speaker a question please that I want to understand from the Member. I want to ask the Member, did you teach before?

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member I call on the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala:** Mr Speaker this is one issue that is usually mentioned; the employment of our people for road services. It is true that the roads in Fiji and Tonga are constructed by the Chinese although the objective of Government for our people is to build up their skills. We already have these skills in the country, some have visited the country and have witnessed improvements and good work. We have an agreement with Tutuila who requested our services to build their roads. I believe there is only one company doing it at the moment. Although with the provisions implemented by the World Bank it is recommended that our services are kept within our country so we will benefit from the earnings as well.

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They are still considering international standards and competitiveness nevertheless we are still able to accomplish our higher work standards. This is an explanation to assist with this matter.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you, I call on the Minister for Women, Community and Social Development.

**Tofa Hon Tolofuaivalelei Falemoe Leiataua (Minister of Women Community and Social Development):** Mr Speaker I move with respect before Members of the House today to voice a humble recommendation to my fellow Member since I am also a son of Aana. This recommendation will also assist with other Members of the Opposition who wish to speak. The reiterating of several issues to portray their intelligence will only prolong Proceedings but they must know that the Government is a body comprising Professors and Doctors. Therefore you do not have to mention these issues since we are all aware also it is to save time and energy. I recommend that Members apart from the respectable Member for Aana Alofi No.3 save their energy and speeches for other important occasions. I also recommend that Members not blame the Chair saying he is trying to rush our Proceedings. The reason why our sittings are taking longer is your side, keep your ideas until the time when your party is blessed at being the Government.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a point of order.

**MR SPEAKER:** One Member cannot clarify a point of order on another point of order.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** I object because the statement made by the Hon Minister is wrong. I have a lot of respect for the Senior Minister and former Speaker but I am saddened since he is telling this party what to do. The recommendations raised by Members are important, if it is not then at least let it be voiced. I humbly ask for an opportunity of this party to have a say in the matter.

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe the matter is now clearly understood. Although I believe the Hon Minister was referring to his fellow Member since he is also a son of Aana. I recommend that we not complicate this issue since it is now understood.

I call on the Member for Faleata West.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Mr Speaker I thought the Hon Minister was going to praise his son with respect to the Member, but these are ideas that assist in formation of this Parliament. The Hon Prime Minister stated if something is complicated you just have to ask for a simpler explanation.

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**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neiotti Sailele Malielegaoui:** Mr Speaker this is the reason why I liked the speech given by the Member for Aana Alofi No.3. The reason why I liked it is based on the interruption by the Member for Gagaemauga No.2 because he is their teacher. All these issues raised are not new, as mentioned by the Deputy Prime Minister these are the strategies that we wanted to implement. Nevertheless I am glad that you have been taught by the Member for Gagaemauga No.2.

**Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu:** Mr Speaker this is exactly what I wanted to know because everyone has a different understanding. The Member has been discussing these ideas and everyone on that side has been constantly nodding because it is a new idea.

**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion of the Member is now understood. I call on the Member for Aana Alofi No.3.

First I give the opportunity to the Member for Palauli, for spiritual guidance.

**Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga (Palauli):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity, I am hearing misguided ideas of this Opposition. Nevertheless I believe the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet are aware that some of our companies are competing within the Pacific. One of the companies got a contract in Cook Islands. This overseas contract funded by the World Bank and Asian Development Bank has selection criterias dependent of the bidding process. During the time I was the Minister of Works most of the bids were taken by overseas companies especially if funding was from the World Bank and ADB. We tried using our own local companies so that we can develop their capacity. The Member mentioned Solomon Islands which is true but it is difficult at the moment in regards to the safety of our people. Solomon Islands is in need of improving its infrastructure. There are a lot of opportunities in Solomon Islands but the first priority is safety.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you; I call on the Member for Aana Alofi No.3 to conclude his speech.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity, I thank Members for their interruptions and opinions given. The purpose of these recommendations as mentioned by the Member is to assist with the work of Government. If they are useful I recommend that we use it if not we can just leave it for other future endeavors. Nevertheless these recommendations may assist in future developments also this might only be the time for us to voice an opinion on the matter.



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There is one difficulty for our companies in competing, the insurance. As the Member for Palauli stated even if our people are good at doing the work they are still required to have insurance which is more than a million for companies. The only thing that we are doing is joining overseas companies, but it is an issue to consider.

I now....

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well.

**Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member.

**Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga:** There is only one criteria used by the World Bank it is the cash flow position not insurance. This is the exact issue I argued during the time I was Minister of Works to allow another company to settle without this condition. This will give our own markets a chance to develop. Now what is it you see today? The four lane road from Loto Samasoni to Vailoa Faleata through funding of the World Bank. It is the cash flow that is needed not the insurance. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. I call on the Member for Aana Alofi No.3 to conclude since most of the queries are now answered.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:** Mr Speaker, a few recommendations for the Cabinet, it is investment and employment. At the moment the most prominent industry there is, is the Computer Industry. Unfortunately I do not see any development on computer programmers and applications which I believe will greatly assist with the income earned. Perhaps the Government should consider this area to set up a computer company like Google. There is no country in the Pacific that has this technology; I hope the Government considers this idea.

Lastly Mr Speaker is the matter in relation to our people living overseas. Most of these people have set up nonprofit organizations. Therefore most of their earnings go into the foundation that assists with people living there. If the Government should consider I recommend that they try to entice these people to come and set up foundations here.

This is a clarification on the matter, I thank the Chair for the opportunity hence it is this Members opinion that the development of Samoa should be of vital importance.

**MR SPEAKER:** I thank the Member for the opinion, I believe you have made quite a few which depicts your beliefs on the matter. Also the Member for Gagaemauga has praised your efforts.

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The Chair recommends Members that there is still a lot of time to speak on the Bill. Also you can write your opinions to the Committee once the Bill is referred to them. This will be the time when the Chairperson and Members will review opinions and recommendations before it is submitted to Government. We also have consideration of the Bill in detail where we will also be given opportunities to voice our opinions. I recommend Members not reiterate issues that have already been mentioned thus prolonging our work. I suggest that Members voice new issues. I have noticed that the Deputy Prime Minister has stood to clarify the same issue two to three times. I will now give the opportunity to the Hon Minister of Natural Resources and Environment.

**Tofa Hon Faamoetauloa Lealaiauloto Ulaitino Faale Tumaalii:** Thank you Mr Speaker I move to respond to the issue raised by the Member for Aana Alofi No.3 before the interruption by the Leader of Opposition. As stated in the Bill lands are purchased and I want to explain this clearly. There is a difference between selling and purchasing, this Clause refers to the taking of lands by Government for development. As for the issue mentioned by the Leader of Opposition saying Government lands are being sold. It is different from the lands Government use for a development that ensures the improvement of the whole country. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** Yes.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** A point of order. These are matters that should be discussed once and then understood. The guidance of the Attorney General should have been obtained first because it varies with the explanation by the Hon Prime Minister. Thus the clarification by the Member is completely different from the Hon Prime Minister, this is what I meant by inconsistency.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker the problem here is the Member interpreting the Bill incorrectly, the Bill is quite clear. The Government lands and customary lands are not affected; I suggest the Member read it again.

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe....

**Afioga Toeolesulusulu Cedric Pose Salesa Schuster:** Mr Speaker a point of clarification.

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**MR SPEAKER:** The Member for Aana Alofi No.3 your time has finished.

**Afioga Toeolesulusulu Cedric Pose Salesa Schuster:** Because....

**MR SPEAKER:** Well you cannot respond because it is the Hon Minister who answered the query made by the Leader of Opposition, therefore this matter is understood.

The floor is now open for Members who wish to comment on the Bill. I call on the Member for Palauli.

**Afioga AFOAFOUVALE JOHN MOORS (Palauli):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity given to Palauli to voice an opinion.

I move with respect to speak on behalf of Palauli since this is the remaining part of Pule. I am grateful for the Bill since it will be a way or programme that will assist in developing this country. I want to elaborate further on the wonderful speech given by one of the Members for Vaimauga West, Tofa Lefau Harry Schuster. It is true that we are protective of the customs and traditions of our country. Even though he has mixed ethnicity he is hundred percent a Samoan at heart.

Mr Speaker I am confident that every Member in the House loves this country based on opinions portrayed. Nonetheless I have asked myself what we should do to develop the country to get more job opportunities for future generation. I believe it is a difficult task given that we cannot predict what will happen in the future. Nevertheless we should try and find opportunities, programmes and solutions to help provide for our future generation. We are the chosen few who consider Bills that implements laws for the development of the country. I believe all of us support these measures establishing opportunities for the betterment of our people and country. We also hold the power to change the laws hence passing of Bills, if we see that it will result in issues then it is up to us to find a way. This is my own personal opinion.

One famous Leader stated, I quote “we need men who can dream of things that never would.” This means we can dream even if we cannot fulfill the things we want in life. This Mr Speaker is a contribution of this Constituency of Palauli in relation to the Bill hence the future of Samoa. Bless our Proceedings.

**MR SPEAKER:** This is the type of speech needed at the moment, thank you Palauli. I believe your speech has stated the important measure in respect to Proceedings carried out today.

I call on the Member for Faasaleleaga No.4.

**Afioga PESETA VAIFOU TEVAGA (Faasaleleaga No.4):** I thank the Chair for the opportunity given to Faasaleleaga No.4 to contribute to the deliberations this morning.

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I was not going to give a speech because this Member and Constituency supports the Bill tabled. Fortunately some of the people from my Constituency in Puapua notified me yesterday of a request it submitted which correlates with the Bill. This was a business project which led to the village clearing an estimated thousand acres of land. Even though it has not become reality I still thank the Government. I believe the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet of the previous Parliamentary Term are still in the House today, and they approved this request for Puapua to be carried out considering the lease of land for companies. As stated earlier the project has yet to be realized, therefore I hope with the implementation of this Bill businesses will come to Salafai to invest. The village of Puapua will benefit also they will not worry anymore because the lease lands have all been prepared.

Mr Speaker I compare this Bill to a person who serves well not like the Tautua Party sitting here. Any person...

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker I cannot dismiss such inappropriate idioms.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member I will give the opportunity to the Leader of Opposition.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** What is the meaning of such a statement that Tautua has to serve well, is this service a bad one? How can we be immoral when we are the one giving Government advice? Mr Speaker I recommend the Member not say such nonsense, if he wants to talk about the lands then campaign for his Constituency.

**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion is now noted, the statement given by the Member was very clear and he did not belittle your side and party.

I call on the Member for Faleata West.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Mr Speaker this party has served well through advice given, it is the Green Power that has given the respectable Afioga Peseta Tevaga work at the moment, with respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe the clarification given by the Member is very clear, commenting good service. He did not state that Tautua Samoa is failing with its duties.

I call on the Member to continue with his clarifications.

**Afioga PESETA VAIFOU TEVAGA:** Thank you Mr Speaker, I apologize to the Leader of Opposition and Members on the opposite side of the Chamber. The statement given is clear, good service is someone who serves their family well, they are not lazy but are diligent and this is the objective of the Bill. The Government is not lazy....

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**Afioga Hon Le Mamea Ropati (Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries):** Mr Speaker there is a word missing from this statement, good service does not mean impertinence.

**MR SPEAKER:** The Member for Faasaleleaga No.4 I recommend that you add this to your clarification.

**Afioga PESETA VAIFOU TEVAGA:** As I stated earlier it is the diligence of our Government that has implemented this Bill, it is mentioned today and planned out tomorrow. A person who serves their family well does not sleep well at night, they think of their elders, parents, family and children so they will not face hunger. This means they work the plantation everyday preparing food supplies for the next day. This is exactly how our Government carries out its plans. I heard through some of the Members and the Hon Prime Minister share how well decisions were made by Cabinet in the years 1992/1993. There are Ministers and Members present here today who were part of the decision making body at that time bringing in the big companies at Vaitele. The significance of this development has seen employment for our younger generation. Perhaps this was also a measure that has resulted to the implementation of the Bill in bringing big companies to our country. The more companies the more opportunities for our children and their future. Nonetheless it will also benefit our people who are looking for work. There are a lot of significant provisions of this Bill, one of which is leasing Government lands to overseas companies. I hope my village of Puapua is listening; I have voiced your request and have clarified the matter in Parliament. The leasing of customary lands is allowed as the Minister and Government stated although they are not to be sold. Although I did not plan on taking the floor I am glad I did, it has enabled me to clarify the issue within my Constituency.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a Point of Order. I apologize to the Member for the constant interruptions. Since you have mentioned the response of the Hon Minister, I am not sure whether you are aware that he clearly stated lands can be sold for development. Although you have said the lands cannot be sold. This is not true the clarification given is very clear customary lands can be bought for development as stated in this Bill.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you I believe the notion is understood. I call on the Hon Minister of Natural Resources and Environment.

**Tofa Hon Faamoetauloa Lealaialoto Ulaitino Faale Tumaalii:** Thank you for the opportunity in case the Leader of Opposition might translate the meaning differently. I just wanted to clarify that lands bought are used for water catchments which are now being threatened due to deforestation.

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This has resulted in drying up of water catchments affecting the lives of people. This is the issue faced by Apia therefore the Government cannot be lethargic on this matter because if we do not take action the country will face drought, who will we go to then? How can you criticize the Government? The Government will only take action when it is a critical problem considering the well being of our people. This is an explanation with respect but we do not mean to sell any piece of land.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I appease the Member but I will give the opportunity for the response of Government.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker this is the reason why we have controversy, we make issues where there are none. The clarifications given are clear also with the list you read out with the exception of prescribed land which is part of the Bill. It does say anything that affects customary lands and Government lands. We ought to read it properly because this is the reason why we do not understand, it is your carelessness. I have taken the floor time and time again to explain the issues in the Bill.

**MR SPEAKER:** The Leader of Opposition I believe the matter is now understood.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker regarding the statement saying that we read and not understand. It is clear within the Bill, purchasing and developing any prescribed land.

**MR SPEAKER:** I am certain the response given by the Hon Minister was understood.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, Government and Customary lands are not affected, read the whole Bill in order to understand this matter.

**MR SPEAKER:** I am confident the matter is now understood hence we cannot go back. I just want to remind Members that we cannot dispute what has been written in the Bill. The response that is given by Government in relation to the Bill is the one that should be accepted. I recommend Members not make the issue complicated than what it is supposed to be. The Hon Minister has taken the floor two to three times to explain and so has the Hon Prime Minister, therefore the response given is the final say of Government. I call on the Member for the continuation of his speech.

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**Afioga PESETA VAIFOU TEVAGA:** Mr Speaker, perhaps the issue is now understood for my Constituency in Salafai. As I stated the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the lands to be leased from this Constituency are prepared. I only mentioned this issue because my Constituency wanted to understand the conditions and the clarification given was, lands are allowed for lease only to businesses. As for the purchasing of customary lands this is not allowed except for lands needed for Government use. It is not sold to businesses overseas.

Mr Speaker this Constituency does not have many issues and as stated we support this Bill. I moved to voice an opinion of my Constituency in the case that my services might be deemed inadequate especially my village of Puapua.

This Mr Speaker is a brief opinion of this Constituency to deliberations. I pray for the blessings of the Lord upon the Chair, the Hon Prime Minister, the Leader of Opposition and all Members of the House, also to the Heads of various Government Ministries and organizations. Bless our Proceedings.

**MR SPEAKER:** I thank the Member for the opinion given thus it has contributed to the Bill discussed in the House today.

I call on the Deputy Speaker it is now your time to have a say from your Constituency.

**Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA (Palauli West):** I am grateful for the opportunity given to Palauli West to voice an opinion on the Bill tabled.

I am thankful that I will be able to see myself on the television because this is the first time that I have seen my picture on TV.

Mr Speaker I will obey your request as stated in the Standing Orders I will not reiterate previous issues but there is a small matter I want to discuss. This Bill has created so much uncertainty resulting to questions from my Constituency of Palauli West; I have been answering questions nonstop. There is a concern of Palauli West and I believe everyone else in Samoa about the terms of land ownership. The Hon Prime Minister has already explained the term sell. I hope my Constituency is listening. The Hon Prime Minister stated yesterday that the term sell and purchase are different. The term sell here is to exchange and purchase is to invest something. Leader of Opposition am I right? I am grateful for the clarifications made upon the Bill. The objective of this Bill will now be known by people living in rural areas through television, radio and newspapers. The sitting on Tuesday was the main headline on Tala Fou news headlining; Parliament deliberated the Bill on selling citizenship, but there was no such statement made within the Bill. I want to thank the Hon Prime Minister for clarifying this issue. The Constituency of Palauli West emphasizes the importance of opportunities that will be implemented in this Bill. Without development our younger generation will suffer.

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There was a youngster from Palauli who came to me at the beginning of last year. He asked me, “Tofa Agafili Tolovaa I humbly ask that you use your political connections to find me a job since I have now graduated University.” I told him, “You should be the one looking for a job not me because I will not reap the benefits of the work if it will be given to you.” After two weeks the same individual came to me and said, “Tofa Agafili Tolovaa I was called to an interview at one of the Ministries, there were thirteen of us shortlisted who were all graduates from University.” There were thirteen candidates for one position. This is the reason why Members of the House and Mr Speaker this Constituency supports this Bill. Last week the same youngster visited me, he said, “Tofa Agafili Tolovaa I was called for an interview at a Government organization, there were eight of us graduates interviewed.” I told him how did it go? He said “Well you know us from Salafai once you set your mind on something you want you go for it, I was successful in getting the position.” He started working on Monday and his rate is \$23,000. My other concern now is where will the other seven candidates go? Mr Speaker this is the reason why I support this Bill together with other recommendations submitted by Members. There was a recommendation that suggested if we cannot find work then go back to planting taro. I agree but we are also the ones that told our children if they cannot work the land they should be good in academics. Now our children have graduated but it is unfortunate that there are no employment opportunities. Blessed are those who are able to get work because if our children do not find work they will have to go back home. Nowadays it is hard trying to convince a young individual to go back to rural life.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Deputy Speaker.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** I intervene to allow the Member to take a brief rest. I just want to amend the statement given by the Member saying, “blessed are those who are getting jobs” meaning our children. This is not true because everyone is in the same situation although it depends on the intellect of the person and their credentials.

With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion is noted, the notion made by the Deputy Speaker is related to him alone. Pardon the Member I will give the opportunity to the Leader of Opposition.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker in the interest of time, this is an issue that is also happening overseas. I am aware of this problem because I know an individual who went for an interview that had six hundred applicants for only ten positions.



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This indicates that there is no difference with this issue happening here and overseas but there is a vast difference between thirteen applicants here and six hundred overseas.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I will give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** I just wanted to ask the Deputy Speaker whether all thirteen applicants are all intellectually blessed. The reason why I ask is based on the issue that there are a lot of parents that request my help. It has taken more than six months for others and more than year for others to find work. Even if I could help there are lesser opportunities available which is the purpose for the Bill. We are proposing new strategies that will assist us in the future therefore I recommend that we not compare it to what is happening now. I have noted that there are a lot of scholars who have completed University unfortunately the only job opportunities available is for apple pickers. We are currently in talks with New Zealand for employment opportunities for our University graduates. I am not certain if it has been more than a hundred individuals that have graduated from Universities in Australia taking engineering, carpentry and vocational courses. At the moment we are awaiting a decision from New Zealand and these are just some strategies for securing more employment.

I will not stress the ongoing work, which at the moment involves several contractors working on Government developments such as roads and construction sites employing a lot of people. The Tender Committee meets every week in consideration to our people seeking work. As Leaders of this country we cannot create employment if we do not explore new options which is a suggestion the Committee and Cabinet has been considering.

**MR SPEAKER:** In respect to saving your time, I call on the Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture followed by the Member for Aiga i le Tai.

**Afioga Hon Magele Mauiliu:** Thank you for the opportunity. I spoke yesterday of a survey that was undertaken in New Zealand where I stated 41 percent of the people needed employment. The Leader of Opposition completely opposed my opinion saying that Samoa is different from New Zealand but we just heard him saying that Samoa is the same as New Zealand. Therefore the Leader of Opposition should apologize.

**MR SPEAKER:** I appease the Hon Minister but the Leader of Opposition will now apologize.

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**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** I already apologized yesterday. Although what I said was accurate. The work that I was referring towards is software engineering. This work is not easy. Have you noted the number of engineers in Australia? I was referring to students who graduated University, I know this because there were six hundred applicants applying to ten positions at this company in Australia. I mentioned that this issue is the same as the one happening in Samoa but for the courses taken by University students over there it is not taken here. This Bill cannot resolve this problem.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member for Aiga i le Tai.

**Susuga Ifopo Matia Filisi:** Thank you for the opportunity. I move with respect to mention Manono. This is important for the clarification of the Constituency because the Member speaking has paternal ties to Palauli West but maternal ties to Manono. I am grateful for the mention of Manono which also portrays the service of Manono to the development of fisheries.

I move with respect Mr Speaker to request that more minutes be added to the speech of the Member to conclude his clarifications.

With respect. Thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well. I call on the Deputy Speaker.

**Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA:** Thank you for the interruption. I will respond first to the query made by the Member for Faleata West, my comment will remain generalized. If you want to know the person I am talking about well I cannot but it is nearly everyone on that side. I support that comment stated by the Leader of Opposition regarding the ten positions with more than six hundred applicants. The reason why I support his statement is based on the fact that his children are living and working overseas. He is not worried about this issue because he is blessed but for my children they have minimum opportunities to get work because there are so many people.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker, Point of order....

**MR SPEAKER:** Alright.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** This is not true because my children are Samoan and they will return to Samoa. There are better opportunities for education and work overseas than here but they will return to find no lands. Even though they live overseas but they have the heart of a Samoan, they will return to no lands and selling of citizenships.

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**Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA:** Do you wish for the Hon Prime Minister to clarify the issue again. The statement given is true but these opportunities are not the same. Your children are quite lucky because even if they are not successful in getting employment they still get benefits to live on. Samoa is not a welfare state if you do not have a job then it is just too bad. If you do not have the credentials then....

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I just want to ask the Member, does this mean if my children are successful overseas you will object the Bill? What is this called? Does this mean it is prejudice?

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker, the Hon Prime Minister is always making degrading comments. They will only be there for a minimal time and then return to Samoa. This is not being prejudice it is thinking of the well being of my children here in Samoa. It is their sole right given to them by the Lord. They will do well working for companies here that need their services.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I apologize to the Deputy Speaker.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** Since our side is mentioned in the comments. I want to clarify a few issues and put matters into order. The Deputy Speaker has already answered his own comment on the difference between New Zealand and Samoa. If a Samoan is unsuccessful at getting a job, they can just go fishing or to the plantation then sell their produce. In New Zealand if you do not get a job you cannot do anything else. The other issue I wanted to clarify to the Member is, the Bill is based on citizenship. Do not try and bring forward issues concerning employment to criticize the objective of the Bill.

With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Deputy Speaker.

**Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA:** The answer to the question raised by the Hon Prime Minister is yes, all of them are intellectually blessed.

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This is the principle now set for our children if they are lazy to work the land then they have to be academically inclined. The matter considering their qualifications, it is true that it will be easy for them who have trades and skills to perform. I asked the University on how courses are arranged and they responded sixty percent are from the Art Faculty. They are the ones taking History, Geography and Sociology. There is no special treatment here with setting up businesses in order to work.

The interruption made by the Member for Faleata East, I am not sure if the Member is aware of what *patuamo* is, it just now disappeared from my neck when I went to New Zealand. This is the difficulty of growing taro and carrying coconuts it gives your neck kinks which results to it being numb. I do not want my son to go through the same life I did. If Samoa has developed then I want my son and his future to be improved as well. As for the word *patuamo* I believe the Hon Prime Minister also had one since that is also what he did in the past he carried coconuts. It is not an easy task to go back to what we once did in the past.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** Mr Speaker, a point of clarification and a correction.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon....

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** I believe there is not a Member here that has not experienced this situation. Every Member here has experienced the life that you are discussing. Perhaps I had a more difficult life than the one you are explaining. This is why I recommend that the Member not bring forward the issue of employment to hide the importance of the Bill which is citizenship.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a Point of order.

**MR SPEAKER:** Alright what is it?

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** The only person that I believe has not experienced this life is the Deputy Prime Minister who is responsible for the Bill. He did not have a *patuamo* or carry coconuts but he has tabled this Bill.

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Deputy Prime Minister.

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** Do you not see my shoulders? This is the reason why I proposed the Bill because I have experienced this situation. I thoroughly understand it.

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Therefore with the implementation of this Bill and as the Deputy Speaker said we do not want to go back to the life we had in the past. Although there is an issue I want to correct the Member for Faleata East stressing that the Bill is based on citizenship. I have already clarified the purpose of the Bill. The main objective of the Bill is to create employment, as mentioned by the Deputy Speaker, for our future generation. However your children are fortunate to work in Australia they earn more and live well. I believe this is dependent on their choice but Samoa needs more employment opportunities.

**Afioga Muagututagata Faamausili Auimatagi Peter Ah Him:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** What is the matter Member for Sagaga le Usoga?

**Afioga Muagututagata Faamausili Auimatagi Peter Ah Him:** The Leader of Opposition has stated that the Hon Minister does not have a *patuamo*. Mr Speaker even though he did not carry coconuts, he did carry sacks of flour, cartons of tinned fish and sacks of rice which were quite heavy. They had a wholesale at the time therefore he did all this kind of work.

**Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA:** This Member for Palauli West will continue with his speech. I saw the conditions faced by the hostel at Moamoa, Channel College, I think this is one hostel that faced a lot of hardship. If you were a half-caste your job is to run every time, which was experienced by the Deputy Prime Minister. I recall this during a time when we got together I knew the hardships he faced because he was a *palagi*. Therefore I cannot say that the statement given is not true although I want to add on to what the Deputy Prime Minister stated on the matter I mentioned earlier.

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** A point of order, I am not a *palagi* I am a full Samoan.

**MR SPEAKER:** This is our usual practices....

**Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA:** Mr Speaker I will not speak further on this issue.

**Afioga Lafaitale Patrick Leiataualesa (Alataua West):** Mr Speaker I request that we check if this *palagi* is a citizen or whether he is implementing the Bill to get a citizenship.

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**MR SPEAKER:** I believe this was the usual for the Deputy Prime Minister at the time with the hostel because he fed and took care of them. This is why he was given this name out of respect for his services.

I call on the Deputy Prime Minister.

**Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA:** I nearly forgot my speech on the various issues mentioned, I am grateful because Palauli West is now going to conclude.

Mr Speaker and respectable Members of the House it is quite hard for our children to go back and work the land. I think it was easier for us because we were brought up doing it as for our children it is quite hard to teach them. I want to stress the objective of the Bill which has been deliberated all throughout this week, it seems Members are afraid of the Bill. I remember the previous Casino and Gambling Control Bill having many objections, which also included one from the Council of Churches. Have there been any problems seen today? Is there an issue that has occurred as stated by the objection? There was an issue that took place at the Casino between Christmas and New Year. There were people who went to the Casino. They had been living in New Zealand for more than thirty years but they were not allowed inside because they held Samoan passports. They have been living in New Zealand for more than ten years yet they still use Samoan passports. No matter how white our feet and pink our cheeks are we still are Samoans it is protocol. This is the same measure taken by the Hotel and Casino in following the Act that we implemented. It looks like most of the Members are anxious about this Bill. This reminds me of a war movie I watched between Germany and Britain in the desert. The Leader of the German army Ramos saw that the British army had more soldiers compared to his two hundred and fifty. There was no chance for them getting out alive since the next morning was war. He told his team, we cannot defeat the British Army since they have more tanks, gun power and soldiers. He initiated a plan telling his army when night falls they should turn on their tanks and drive around the desert. The British army assumed that the German Army was bringing in more troops. The next day the British retreated back another five miles to rethink their strategies. They were fearful of the extra troops recruited although there was not; Ramos and his army of two hundred and fifty were safe. When the British army went to survey the area there was no sign of an Army only abandoned tanks. This is how I compare this Bill there are a lot of people who are anxious.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member I will give the opportunity to the Member for Individual Voters.

**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang (Individual Voters):** Mr Speaker it is not my intention to interrupt the speech given by the Deputy Speaker.

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He has continuously mentioned the word anxious, the truth is Mr Speaker I do not think it is anxiety but worry. There is a difference between anxiety and worry.

With respect.

**Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA:** Thank you for the interruption although I think anxious is the same as worry.

Mr Speaker Palauli West will now conclude, the statement I started with “warnings in life are a result of blessings.” The Book in the Bible this line is from is Psalms 1, there are three warnings stated here. Do not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the way of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful which is happening now. This is a reminder to us on the word of Peter to his son in 1 Timothy 3:8 saying “*o tiakono foi e tatau ona faatoeaina i latou.*” In the English translation it simply says, “Deacons, in the same way, must be men of serious demeanor.” The term serious and *faatoeaina* are vastly different in the Samoan context although this was a translation that was made by our elders who were translating the Bible. There is a great difference if you look at the Samoan terms nonetheless *faatoeaina* translates to the word serious. It also means the implementation of opinions and the depth of knowledge that is portrayed in the Bill. Bless our Proceedings.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you for the speech given Deputy Speaker.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a Point of Order in relation to the speech. The word *faatoeaina* means love, it is also not being afraid and all the other meanings mentioned by the Member. This includes the verse in Psalms 1 stating, “do not sit in the set of the scorned.” I want to ask who is sitting in this chair? We are sitting in these chairs because of our love for Samoa thus we are not scornful. This is the matter I wanted to amend we are not scornful.

**MR SPEAKER:** The explanation given by the Leader of Opposition is quite clear therefore we do not have reason to argue the matter further. This was just the opening statement of the previous Members opinion. He has mentioned verses from the Bible which will be a more complicated issue if we were to discuss further. I believe the opinion of the Member is quite honorable. Therefore whatever translation Members of the House believe might be more appropriate I recommend that you keep them to yourselves. The opportunity is still being given to anyone who wishes to comment on the issue when it is their time. Nevertheless the words mentioned by the Deputy Speaker are of his own beliefs.

I now give the opportunity to the Member for Faasaleleaga No.3.

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**Tofa TUILEUTU ALAVAA VOI (Faasaleleaga No.3):** I was sitting here thinking whether I should walk or stay, we all know that where there is water, we will end up going to it. First I want to acknowledge our Parliament, Mr Speaker, the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet and also the Leader of Opposition and this side of the House. I move to convey an opinion of this Constituency towards the Bill tabled in the House today. I have noted that there have been in depth consultations and research done in drafting this Bill. If this is the case then I believe the Bill is well prepared.

A Senior Associate of Martin Luther King said after Martin was assassinated “whatever happens directly affects all the people indirectly.” This is the objective of the Bill it is implementing developments for the future because we cannot go back to the hard life we once faced. As several Members have already stated we cannot go back to live the past because we all know how difficult it was since our parents were part of it. We always put our customs first, our duty, our lands and the respect of the dignity of this country. This is why with the various changes we are now facing, our Leaders should be more vigilant in ensuring our future. Faasaleleaga No.3 will not comment further as the Leader of Opposition earlier stated we are here to give advice to our Government. We are all aware of the changes faced with the world today, no one is perfect. This is why we obtain the decisions made by the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet also the Opposition. I am grateful for the developments initiated through the Bill.

I believe our Proceedings have taken longer than expected thus it is a measure that should be taken to thoroughly consider such important matters. I pray that the Lord bless our Proceedings and all Members of the House present here today.

**MR SPEAKER:** I thank the Member for the clarification given and the support of his Constituency of Faasaleleaga No.3. I believe the matter discussed is now understood especially considering we have been deliberating since Tuesday. We have been blessed with the strength to carry forward deliberations this last sitting.

I believe it is now time for recess since we all need to take a break to regain our strength to continue the next half of Proceedings. We will now commence to take lunch as prepared before we return to continue our Proceedings.

I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly set aside for its usual recess.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside for its usual recess at 1:07 until 1:45pm.*

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed with the second reading debate of the Citizenship Investment Bill 2014.*



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**MR SPEAKER:** I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly have now resumed. The exact time shown on the clock is 4.00pm.

We are still deliberating following the motion moved today. Also I am certain that we will be finishing soon. The Chair is grateful to Members for the issues voiced and discussed and our work has nearly reached its completion. I am hoping that we will be able to finish our work this Friday because tomorrow is Saturday then Sunday. There are Members here who are planning to go to Savaii for the weekend. Nonetheless I will leave it to Members of the House for the progress of our Orders. Before we took recess today the Member for Aleipata Itupa i Lalo was about to begin. Therefore I call on the respectable Afioga Tafua Maluelue.

**Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA (Aleipata Itupa i Lalo):** Thank you Mr Speaker, I am certain the Hon Prime Minister, the Chair, Cabinet, Associate Ministers and Deputy Prime Minister have regained strength during recess. Also to the opposite side of Camber the Leader of Opposition, Deputy Leader and all Members of your Party. I want to thank the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Office also I thank the Head of various Government Ministries and Organizations. I thank you all for your patience.

I want to acknowledge my Constituency if they are listening, Aleipata I will now voice an opinion in relation to the Bill.

This Bill is quite significant, and because of it I now understand the lineage of the Hon Prime Minister. He is a son of a man from Lepa and is decedent from Tuilatepa in Tonga and Tuilakeba in Fiji. This man owns a few islands in Fiji perhaps he is a cousin with Bainimarama. Mr Speaker I have come to the understanding that the Aiga Sa Tunumafono Members are in disagreement but the Members for Falealili are in conformity. It seems this is the importance of Proceedings I can see that...

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a point of order.

**MR SPEAKER:** I appease the Afioga Tuiatua since you have mentioned the title of Sa Tunumafono.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** We are related with all due respect to the Hon Minister. Even though we may have different views during Proceedings we are still of the same family, Aiga Sa Tunumafono are compassionate people. We cannot take that away because there is only one family like this in all of Samoa. It does not matter whether Afioga Manualesagalala Enokati Posala is a Minister and I am the Leader of Opposition we will still be kind to one another until eternity. We will both be here again in the next General Elections.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

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**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoui:** Mr Speaker in case the Member might have forgotten, I move a point of order. It is evident within the House that Afioga Palusalua Faapo is an in-law married a relation of myself and Afioga Leaupepe Toleafoa.

**Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA:** Thank you Hon Prime Minister for the reminder.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member, the Hon Minister will not ignore the comment, the Hon Minister is there something who wish to be forgiven?

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala:** It is my fellow Member who is always asking for forgiveness, as for me I have nothing to be forgiven for because I have done no wrong within the House. Mr Speaker the water is quite clear he is now the Leader of Opposition and I am a Member of the Government. As one of the elders of my Constituency said to me, ‘go and run for Parliament because we already told Afioga Palusalua Faapo to go into Government but he has changed to the Opposition.’ With respect.

**Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA:** Thank you for your assistance to the speech of this Constituency. I am now reminded by the comment made by the Hon Prime Minister on forgiveness stating Afioga Palusalua Faapo II. This brings to mind the speech made by the former New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark asking Samoa for forgiveness. I quote the response of the Hon Prime Minister, “to err is human, to apologize, is divine.” I am grateful for your patience which is the reason why you were chosen as Leader of your party.

Mr Speaker I asked the Attorney General a few questions in relation to the Bill. One query was why they did not include in Part 2 the acquisition of citizenship as mentioned by Tofa Lefau Harry Schuster. The individual can get a citizen through birth, descent or marrying a permanent resident of Samoa. If it had included citizen by investment perhaps it will not affect us in the long term. The Attorney General responded that it was a good idea although it will also involve other issues such as land acquisition and others. I cannot recall all of the responses given but the important aspect is it will complicate the Bill further. Therefore my personal understanding in the Bill is, to attract investors into the country which is making it hard for me to decide whether to agree or reject the Bill. As I stated earlier on the basis of my speech, I object this Bill but it is my love for my Constituency and country that is giving me hope for such developments. I will now convey a few opinions on the matter and will not reiterate the previous issues already stated by some Members. These are just a few suggestions and recommendations to the Deputy Prime Minister and the Bill especially to the Committee who will be evaluating the Bill.

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Firstly I want to discuss the \$4million that is brought in by the investor. This \$4 million would be great if it was a person coming from Europe whether they are from Germany or England it will be in Euros. This means the target is \$8 million although it is easier to call it a million which is the same for America, Australia and New Zealand. For example if our target is \$8million and the investor is a Chinese, Korean or Taiwanese it does not matter what country they are from as long as they bring in \$4million equivalent to \$8million Samoan tala. This is the reason why I humbly ask the Committee and Attorney General to review this matter especially the Deputy Prime Minister. I humbly request that we find a provision within the Bill that this objective be included.

Secondly there should be a time constraint on the years allowed for these investors and their families to be residents of the country within the Bill. A precaution because if there will be twenty family members coming it will not be worth it if they only give \$4million. This does not mean we will be restricting investors coming into the country, it will just be a precaution to minimize the influx of people coming into Samoa.

The same problem occurred at one New Zealand school, Wesley College. In 1992 there was an influx of students, 2,000 boys and 2,000 girls. In this time period there were only about four students from Asia. When New Zealand introduced overseas students to enroll together with investment, I believe it was twelve to fifteen and now 40 percent of Wesley College students are Asian. This is an example of what happened and what will happen in our country. Perhaps we might not get any investors compared to New Zealand which even though is remote they have more jobs to offer, they have minerals, forestry, fishing and other sources of development. As for our country we do not have much to attract investors, nevertheless I hope we get investors and if we only get ten or eight I thank the Lord. If we obtain \$8million tala it would be extremely helpful to us and the Budget whilst acquiring employment. We can consider what will happen to the other portion, I want to thank Afioga Lautafi Purcell for his recommendation and response. I believe every one of us is aware of this situation. The Hon Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister have both clarified the issue as well. This is why I said earlier that my heart objects the Bill though my mind and love for our country especially my Constituency that holds me back. There are one hundred and twenty to hundred and forty young men in my village that do not work. Mr Speaker and Members of Parliament when I go there I plant a coconut or work the plantation. If the work starts at eight the men give up by eleven or twelve, when you call for them there is no one there. Why? Well it is very hard to determine the character of people nowadays. Even if you pay them they cannot work five hours because the maximum is three to four. I agree with some of the comments by previous Members saying that our people are complicated, perhaps this is the reason why....

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**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member but I will give the opportunity to the Member for Faleata West.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** The speech given is quite understandable although I want to ask the Member, in relation to his comment. He said that his heart objects the Bill but his mind supports it. I believe we are all aware that the heart tells the truth but the mind is something that is always changing. I just want to understand what exactly the Member means by this statement.

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe this is a correction not a question because I do not allow questions just clarifications.

**Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA:** I thank the Member for the interruption. What comes from the heart is what I have explained. As for the mind if we do not have money we cannot do anything, we are continuously thinking. There is an English saying that goes like this, ‘chance favors a prepared mind.’ I appreciate the opinions by Members on safeguarding our country from overseas influence. We cannot just allow a unclean millionaire come into the country and get a citizenship after only three years. There are such cases especially considering the use of money as some matai are easily bribed. If they are given money a matai title can be easily bestowed on the foreigner.

**Tofa Hon Tuuu Anasii Leota (Siumu):** Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member I will give the opportunity to the interruption by the Member. Is it a point of clarification or a point of order?

**Tofa Hon Tuuu Anasii Leota:** Mr Speaker it is a Point of Clarification, I want to understand what is the meaning of the term unclean millionaire?  
 With respect.

**Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA:** I was certain the Member would not interrupt my speech but thank you for the question. the first reading of the Bible last Sunday taken from the Book of Leviticus, Then the Lord spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying “When a man has on the skin of his body a swelling or a scab or a bright spot, and it becomes an infection of leprosy on the skin of his body, then he shall be brought to Aaron the priest or to one of his sons the priests. The priest shall look at the mark on the skin of the body, and if the hair in the infection has turned white and the infection appears to be deeper than the skin of his body...when the priest has looked at him, he shall pronounce him unclean.

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The same term is used in the Book of Paul under 1 Corinthians 11:31. A definition of the term unclean is stated within there, but I thank the Member for the question. The first time I heard of this Bill when it was introduced at Tofilau Eti Alesana Building I raised a point of concern. I was concerned for our culture that can be ruined by unclean millionaires from overseas. This investor is an outsider but we will have the same status. We are all the same therefore I respect the clarification given by the Hon Prime Minister, our own Parliament is made up of different people. Although the differences here are Members have been serving our country for many years which started from their own forefathers. I just learned not long ago that Susuga Ifopo Filisi is part German. I acknowledge your forefathers and the thousand eight hundred acres of land used for coconut plantations. I am just saddened by the fact that the Member Afioga Toleafoa Faafisi did not get a share from it. Mr Speaker the meaning of my comment.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member but since you have mentioned the Member, I call on Aiga i le Tai.

**Susuga Ifopo Matia Filisi:** Mr Speaker this will just be a brief comment, so the Member can take a breather. I ask that you remove Germany and replace it with Samoa. Thank you.

**Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA:** Thank you, but I will not worry about the joke that you made saying half cook Samoan. I cannot say that you are a half Samoan since your ties are far in the past. Nevertheless Mr Speaker I apologize to the Member for Aiga i le Tai. The matter that will arise from the Bill....

**Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi:** Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member since you also mentioned the Member in your speech. I call on the Member.

**Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi:** I move with respect to elaborate the issue especially to Parliament and the country and my Constituency. The thousand eight hundred acres of land mentioned by the Member correct me if I am wrong most of the Chinese laborers that came into the country worked those lands. They each looked after a block of land. As of today most of them have become successful businessmen. All of those whose fathers are Chinese these are the lands where they started their success. I have explained this matter so the Parliament and Samoa will know the importance of the service of these people. At the moment most returned and some have died, but the land still remains as it was in Fasitoo. With respect.

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**MR SPEAKER:** The matter is now understood.

**Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu:** Mr Speaker on saving the time....

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member.

**Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu:** The Member has spoken, well I will call him Samoan or half cook Samoan, we can also call him since he is part German, a half Germ Samoa.

**MR SPEAKER:** There is no such word as Germ, it is German meaning it will be German half German. I call on the Member to continue with his clarification.

**Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA:** The Member for Aiga i le Tai is not sickly he is big and strong.

**MR SPEAKER:** Is there anything further that is needed to be amended Susuga Ifopo Matia Filisi, I can see....

**Susuga Ifopo Matia Filisi:** Thank you Mr Speaker I feel sad from hearing such comments. Nevertheless I do not want to disturb the speech by the Member. I am grateful to the Member Afioga Leupepe Toleafoa for voicing the importance of the work carried out on these lands. As for the comment made earlier half cook half Samoan I believe everyone understands it. This means that a person can have a British father Samoan mother or American mother and Samoan father. This is the meaning of this statement in case the Member of the Green Power does not understand, with respect thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member to continue.

**Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA:** Thank you for the interruption. A suggestion for the Committee that will consider investment applications submitted. I have a question for investors who come into the country with their children under the age of sixteen; this means they will be given opportunities to go to school here. If they are to graduate from schools they are entitled to scholarships, I want to ask the Committee whether they have taken measures to review this issue. There is a big chance for these overseas people living here for more than five years to be eligible to these scholarships. We should remember that these people come from millionaire families. There should be a strategy implemented to monitor this problem. I apologize if one of the Members has already stated this point. The authority of this Bill Mr Speaker is held by the Board. It has been mentioned that all Members of the Committee are prominent people nonetheless it is important that we still scrutinize them with due diligence.

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As for attracting investors mentioned by the Deputy Prime Minister some of these millionaires earned their worth from war and other means. These are some of the good people that can invest in our country. I want to ask the Committee under the eligibility for investors acquiring Samoan passports if they do background checks on investors considering their health. I was wondering if this Bill will allow investors who were injured by the war to come into the country to establish businesses. Since it is clearly stated in the Bill, we do not allow people who do not have good health. Anyways this is just a question for us to think about and consider. Another aspect of the Bill states attracting tourists which means there will be new hotels built earning our people employment. Since we started our Proceedings on Tuesday I have noticed that the stairs is very dirty and slippery which is quite a disappointment. Secondly if we look at our Post Office the footpath is not wheelchair friendly. I walked past there on Monday and Tuesday morning and I saw a huge manhole in the drain without a cover maybe it was like this during the SIDS. I am thankful that a European or a tourist did not fall down that hole. I humbly request that the Chief Executives in the Committee foresee this matter with respect. There is no investor or tourist coming into the country that will want to witness these types of damages in our infrastructure. We should consider that these people who invest \$4 million into the country are intelligent people. Therefore if an investor falls in this hole or is injured they have the power to sue the Government. This will result in the Government being bankrupt paying tens of millions in a lawsuit. I conclude with one of the comments made by the Members in relation to actors and actresses. These are some of the people who earn a lot of money, but as mentioned by the Hon Prime Minister the letters sent are yet to be answered. I presume these people earn about \$30 million or more. I can see that the Deputy Prime Minister is not someone we can take lightly; he is handsome, young and charismatic. Perhaps he can go to Hollywood charm some of these actors to come visit our beautiful country Samoa and maybe in attracting them we will be able to acquire investors.

**Tofa Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** The Hon....

**Tofa Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** Mr Speaker this is not a lie there was a time when I was living in Hollywood Los Angeles. There are a few people like this as mentioned by the Member. I am quite used to it, at the moment I have started communication because this is one way to bring them in. Thank you, I am free to travel to Hollywood with the Member for him to take a look around.

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**MR SPEAKER:** The Member I recommend that you conclude your speech.

**Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA:** Thank you for your respect. Lastly Mr Speaker I want to elaborate an example on the famous celebrity Michael Jackson.

I believe our Parliament and the country are all aware that this man was born an African American with curly hair, black skin and big lips. When he became rich he underwent surgery for his nose, lips and skin making him white. The significance of what I am saying Mr Speaker if we pass this Bill this is an example that will portray the beauty of Samoan women as mentioned by the Hon Prime Minister. They will not only beautify themselves but will need more plastic surgery to make them look better, because the photographers....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I do not want to interrupt the speech by the Member but we are already prepared for such an act. There are a lot of bottles of fetau oil that can be applied to the face making it look like a baby. This is one secret weapon that we can use; all of those who want smooth skin including Members who look older can use this oil. It can make them look youthful.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member.

**Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA:** Thank you for the clarification. Lastly to those women who like wearing makeup especially fifty year old women, when they come some men might think they are twenty years old. They are not aware that it is only a result of several plastic surgeries. This is one investment Mr Speaker for investors to set up beauty salons including plastic surgery. I believe there are people who will be willing to go to these places, fortunately us Polynesians are beautiful people. This is just a suggestion because I believe this is one business that will prosper if the Bill is passed.

Bless our Proceedings.

**MR SPEAKER:** I thank the Member for the speech. The Member for Sagala le Usoga do you wish to speak?



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RESIGNATION SPEECH OF THE MEMBER FOR  
SAGAGA LE USOGA

**Afioga MUAGUTUTAGATA FAAMAUSILI AUIMATAGI PETER AH HIM:** Mr Speaker I have been trying to get a minute of your time nevertheless I appreciate this opportunity to take a break from our deliberations. I have noted that we still have a long way to go pursuant to Standing Orders of the House.

I thank the Chair for the opportunity and managing of our time. Mr Speaker and respectable Members of Parliament, the dignity of the House I will not address as it remains. I acknowledge the presence of the Legislative Assembly in all its honorary salutations, *Aiga ma Tama, Tama ma Aiga, Tumua ma Pule, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga I le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti* and acknowledge the humble servants of God.

I stand to address an issue which I believe everyone is aware of through the media via newspaper and television. This issue involves myself and has affected my family. It has also been broadcast overseas through the internet therefore I cannot just ignore it as it has greatly affected my family especially my beloved Constituency of Sagaga le Usoga who elected me into this Parliament. I am blessed to have served my Constituency for ten years now.

This is quite a long time; I am honored for the trust bestowed on me. There is a Samoan phrase, “a day and its choices, a day and its occurrences.” We are faced with certain obstacles in this life and at times are easily tempted. We also recall our Lord, Jesus Christ who was also tempted by the devil. It is in the persons nature to make mistakes, no wonder our elders used to say, “The fisherman is skilled but his canoe is incomplete. We sleep in peace but disaster is always lurking.” It is with a heavy heart and good judgment that I stand before you today to officially resign from my seat in Parliament. Mr Speaker and Members of the House, in doing so I leave the seat vacant and subject to the relevant statutory provisions in such situations. I sincerely apologize to the Members of my Constituency; Alii and Faipule, church Leaders, faletua and tausi, saobao and augafaapae for this decision. I pray that you forgive me for this decision that I have made on my own accord. I want to thank you all for the support given to me to represent our Constituency in Parliament at Malae o Tiafau. Also whatever my strengths in providing services I humbly say it was all that I could give.

My Constituency we will soon meet again. I apologize to the Chair and Members of the Legislative Assembly, our Leader and fellow Members of my Party. I pray that you forgive me for any misgivings and misbehavior between us. I pray that the Lord bless our Head of State and also bless all of Samoa. Soifua.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoui:** Mr Speaker I stand with respect to Members of the House as Leader of the Human Rights Protection Party.

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### Resignation Speech of the Member for Sagaga le Usoga

The Member Afioga Muagututagata Peter Ah Him is one of the Senior Members of this Party, he has served in this Parliament for several years under this Party. The Member started around the time when there were only three years in a Parliamentary term, I believe he took four terms which is a long time. The Member has served this Parliament well through Committees in voicing sound recommendations on important matters deliberated in the House. This greatly contributed to the development of Samoa. We have heard his decision and reasons of resigning his seat within Parliament which is a matter that rarely happens in the history of this Parliament. I move with utmost respect to adhere and accept the resignation of the Member not only in Parliament but as a Member of the Human Rights Protection Party.

I take this opportunity as a Member of our Party to voice our sincere gratitude to the Member for his services in the years we worked together. If only I could change your decision I would have recommended you to be patient. It will not be long now before we come to the end of this term. Unfortunately it is you who holds the power to decide what is best, I am confident that you have already made future arrangements with your family. I pray that the Heavenly Father bless you and your future endeavors, you have now resigned from your Parliamentary duties although I believe you will now give your all in serving your family. Soifua and God bless.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I thank the Hon Prime Minister for his vote of thanks. I call on the Leader of Opposition.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I move with respect to convey the acknowledgment of this side of the House. Mr Speaker on behalf of the Deputy Leader and Members of the Opposition Party in accordance to the important announcement, even if we are from different Parties we are one. We all contribute in making the decisions for this country. If one of us is affected everyone is saddened. It does not matter what we say to one another in this House because we are all children of God. The Member stated that a hero who follows his heart is better than the one who tries to climb the high peak. I acknowledge your strength and your perseverance. We have heard the speech by the Hon Prime Minister where he thanked you for your services to this Parliament especially in serving your Constituency of Sagaga le Usoga. We are both from Tuamasaga therefore we are one with respect to our Parliament.

I pray as the Hon Prime Minister has, for blessings upon you and we express our heartfelt compassion and pray the Lord bless you and your future endeavors and the same to your wife and children and also the Constituency. This is a brief vote of thanks Mr Speaker towards the Member and I wish him well in his future duties. You will not be forgotten within this House, I hope we will meet again in the future. Soifua.

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**MR SPEAKER:** I call on Afioga Maualaivao Pat Ah Him.

**Afioga MAUALAIVAO PAT AH HIM (Individual Voters):** Thank you for the opportunity. I am grateful to the Chair for the opportunity given which I did not think would have been possible otherwise. I move with respect to second the speech given by Afioga Muagututagata Peter Ah Him and the Hon Prime Minister also Leader of this Party has also adhered his request. The Leader of Opposition has also voiced his gratitude to the announcement given. I move with respect to thank the Hon Prime Minister, the Chair and our Parliament for accepting the resignation of Afioga Muagututagata Peter Ah Him. He is a dear friend to others but a brother to me. Therefore I humbly request the House to accept the apology of the Member thus I want to stress the importance of the speech made by the Afioga Muagututagata Ah Him. It is very hard for a person holding a high status to adhere to such standards, but at this hour I salute the Member, thank you. I am glad that the Chair and Hon Prime Minister and Members of the House have witnessed and accepted your resignation. Well Afioga Muagututagata Peter Ah Him those are your blessings as stated by the Hon Prime Minister and Leader of Opposition.

Mr Speaker this is the reason for taking the floor, to emphasize further the announcement by the Member, blood is thicker than water. I apologize for any misbehavior that I might have portrayed, with all due respect. Bless our Proceedings.

**MR SPEAKER:** I am confident all Members of the House are in understanding of the issue stated here today. I believe Lopepe has taken a different path today thus we once were united but now we have separated. I believe respectable Members that today is not an easy day for us thus we cannot determine what happens in a day. It is a difficult time for us as the Leader of Opposition has stated because of our close relationship in serving our constituencies, however you have resigned from your duties but the term is nearly complete. The Hon Prime Minister has spoken of your outstanding services to the Government and the Parliament. The Leader of Opposition has also prayed to the Lord for His blessings, there is no more secret since the issue has been made visible through your resignation. A comment from the Chair, thank you for your consideration to our Parliament, thank you for the outstanding relationships made with Members. Nevertheless you have not waited for the decision of the Court but have taken the matter into your own hands and followed through with Parliamentary procedures. Let us wait upon the Lord because it is He that is the supreme judge of us all. No one is perfect because everyone makes mistakes in this world, it is the same as the man who was crucified next to Jesus who sought his forgiveness. I pray that you believe in the Lord, pray unto Him and give Him your burdens. The Hon Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition and Members of the House have voiced their gratitude and appreciation for your services in Parliament together with blessings in future aspirations.

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We also thank you for the services carried out towards your Constituency in all its honorary salutations.

These are the honorary salutations that you have emphasized today. Also you have already shown appreciation to your Constituency nevertheless it does not minimize our own gratitude to your services day and night in ensuring the betterment of Samoa.

Lastly we pray for your good health through body, mind and soul because all of us will eventually experience this in life. This is not the end, we do not know what will happen and the plans our Heavenly Father has in place for us.

This is a comment towards the matter because I was surprised with the apology given by the Member today. However what is done is done the country have heard the apology also Members of the House are saddened by the resignation by the Member. We have heard as well the words of appreciation and gratitude by the Hon Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition and the Chair. I pray the Lord reward him with all his hard work during his time in Parliament and continue to bless him with future endeavors. May God bless the Member and his family and I pray his holy spirit be with him today. We now come to the continuation of our Orders however difficult the events of today.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker I move with respect, I am saddened with what has occurred within our Parliament today. It is like having your foot pricked. The pain is felt by the mind especially with the Members resignation today. I humbly request to the Hon Prime Minister that we adjourn our Proceedings for today not only to think of the Bill but our fellow Member. I pray that we adjourn and not to urgently carry forward with the Bill, do not worry we will pass it. I am not sure if this side is interested anymore to speak upon the Bill, I request to the Hon Prime Minister to move a motion for adjournment.

**MR SPEAKER:** The request of the Leader of Opposition is now understood. I understand we are all affected by the announcement made but we cannot set aside the motion that has already been moved.

I believe it is now time to put the question before we adjourn for today. The question whether the Citizenship Investment Bill....

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker with all due respect....

**MR SPEAKER:** Yes.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** You are proceeding to put the question but this is not what I requested. Let us adjourn and come back to continue deliberations on the Bill another day with your consent.

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We have yet to conclude deliberations in accordance to Standing Orders. Do not take what has occurred today to putting the Question to officially pass the second reading of the Bill.

**MR SPEAKER:** This is exactly what I meant as you stated earlier no one wants to speak on the Bill anymore also we cannot change the motion that has already been moved by the Hon Prime Minister. We cannot put aside what has already been passed. I call on one of the Members for Aana Alofi No.1, Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi.

**Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi (Aana Alofi No.1):** Thank you for the opportunity Mr Speaker. I just wanted to assist the Chair since his duties is not an easy one. There are forty eight Members of Parliament forty nine if we include the Chair. This means he is solely administering the Orders within the House. A reminder the motion moved by the Hon Prime Minister has been passed which means deliberations on the second reading of the Bill must be completed so the Question can be put forward. Therefore it is Parliamentary practice that Members do not have a say in the sole decision made by the Chair. The opinions of Members are all equal also the one given by the Leader of Opposition, we abide to Parliamentary practices. I can see that most of the Members of Government and Opposition are in agreement. Therefore on behalf of the older Members I move a motion, *That the question is put; hence I am worried for the Leader of Opposition who is need of a break. Mr Speaker I humbly ask that the Question be put so it will be in correlation with the request of the Leader of Opposition, our Proceeding has taken its toll on us all. This is a request to the Chair nevertheless you are the one that has authority over the decision.*

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Leader of Opposition.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** I did not move a motion as the one stated we have already made our statement. I know that you are aware Mr Speaker that there are four more of us who are yet to speak on the Bill. This is why I pray for adjournment if not let us continue in accordance to the important Bill and your decision.

**MR SPEAKER:** This is the issue I was trying to clarify, I call on the Deputy Prime Minister.

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** Mr Speaker I move with respect to second the motion moved. The motion made by one of the Members for Aana Alofi No.1, Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi. Thank you.

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**Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I have been trying to clarify the matter and maintain order to Proceedings. The Leader of Opposition clearly made a point to adjourn Proceedings in relation to the resignation of the Member for Sagaga le Usoga. Although the motion that was passed was moved for our Proceedings to be carried forward until completion. A motion has also been moved by one of the Members for Aana Alofi No.1, I apologize to the Member. I call on one of the Members for Salega Afioga Afualo Wood Uti Salele.

**Afioga Afualo Wood Uti Salele (Salega):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I believe all of us are affected with the announcement made today although it does not mean to say that we have forgotten our work today. The Constituency of Salega has yet to speak on the Bill therefore I humbly request the Chair for Proceedings to continue. There are just a few us left especially Members from the island of Salafai. Thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** The Hon Prime Minister I call on your decision.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** I have noticed that most of the Members are in agreement also the Leader of Opposition has requested adjournment, therefore let the Question be put.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a point of order. The comment made was quite clear since today was the resignation of a Member of that side, there was a comment saying we are one. How can you know that are speeches are of the same issue. This is why I humbly ask that we do what is just, let us move forward with the motion made, since the country is our witness. Also the Lord is foreseeing all that we are doing.

**MR SPEAKER:** The clarification Leader of Opposition is now understood. It is your request that resulted to one of the Members for Aana Alofi No.1, Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi to move the motion. As you have heard the Hon Prime Minister has also agreed with this motion thus terminating the first motion moved earlier.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker with all due respect I do not think you understand, I did not say that we should conclude deliberations and for the question to be put. The second reading has already been carried out. There is a difference between the two. This is why I pray that the Chair give us this opportunity to voice our opinions because once the Question is put our opinions will be useless.

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**MR SPEAKER:** I appease the Leader of Opposition but I cannot allow this since the motion moved has already been seconded. This is the reason why the Member for Aana Alofi No.1 took the floor. I call on the Member for Aana Alofi No.1.

**Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi:** Mr Speaker it is our usual practices that once a motion is seconded proceedings shall follow this approval. The only reason I moved this motion was based on the Leader of Opposition request to adjourn our sitting so we could take a break from such a long day. It is standard procedure....

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** The Chair you have heard....

**MR SPEAKER:** I beg tolerance to voice an opinion....

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** I did not say that we should adjourn our Proceedings on the Bill.

**MR SPEAKER:** I appease the Leader of Opposition....

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** The comment made by the Member is incorrect.

**MR SPEAKER:** A motion has been made and it has been seconded.

**Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi:** I am reminding Members of our Parliamentary practices, I cannot reprimand the Chair because that is his duty. Although there are provisions that is consistent on time, if the Leader or Deputy Leader of Opposition have already voiced their concerns to the Hon Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister then that is it. It has taken us three to four days to deliberate this Bill I have noted disrespect towards Proceedings. The motion has been seconded due to the request of the Leader of Opposition. Thank you.

**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** Mr Speaker, with all due respect....

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Deputy Leader of Opposition.

**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** I believe all of us are having mixed feelings at the moment, which is the reason why the Leader of Opposition voiced his decision, why? Well it is a form of courtesy towards the Member who has resigned also we are all affected by it.

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Mr Speaker I am aware that you also felt this, which is a reason I do not support the motion. It is common knowledge that you know some Members are yet to speak on this Bill. We have been deliberating this issue for nearly an hour....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Deputy Leader.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaai:** Mr Speaker these long Proceedings have taken four days and it has seen the upstanding of Members several times already. Even though the Leader of Opposition has yet to speak he has already taken the floor many times, which is how many? I recall 1986 there was only one speech allowed from this Party then the Government gave a response and that was the end of it. This was a time when we were the Opposition; it was a time when the Member was the Speaker of the House. There were only two questions, one of which was, is there anyone who wishes to speak? Well we were only able to give one speech before the matter was closed, but the Bill deliberated at that time was the Appropriation Bill. There is a huge difference now because more than half of the Members of Parliament have already spoken and the Leader of Opposition has been continuously stating his own concerns. The same concerns already voiced by others for example the selling of passports, it is all repetitive. Mr Speaker the reason why I have taken the floor is to third the motion.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a Point of Order. The Hon Prime Minister you seem to be thinking of me always taking the floor but how about the constituencies listening to us.

**Tofa Hon Tolofuaivalelei Falemoe Leिताua:** Mr Speaker I have noted that we are taking up too much time in discussing this issue. Personally with my understanding on the position of the Chair which I believe Afioga Aeau Leavaiseeta is also aware, as stated in the Standing Order once a motion is seconded a Question is put forward. As for the issue with two motions the Hon Prime Minister has given consent to the second one made by the Member. The comment made by the Leader of Opposition was very clear also I believe this side does not want to speak further on the Bill as well. A motion has been moved by the Member for Aana Alofi No.1 and I believe it is now being fourth. I humbly request that a Question be put so that we can be able to carry on with our Proceedings. This will not be the last time for Members to voice their opinions because we still have Committee considerations where we are given another opportunity to voice concerns.

With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** This is the same issue that I was trying to explain earlier.



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**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** A point of order, I made no such comment that we do not want to speak on the Bill anymore.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member Afioga Palusalue Faapo II and Tofa Lealailepule Aiafi.

**Tofa Hon Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** I will not deliberate further on any matter but today Mr Speaker is a day of forgiveness. The meaning of the comment made by the Leader of Opposition was, let us take a minute to comfort our fellow Member who is leaving us today. I believe no one here knows what it feels like since you have not been through it like me, it is not easy. I humbly ask the Chair for his time since the Leader and Deputy Leader of this Party have not spoken. The Bill is about the Citizenship of Samoa. If you should know Mr Speaker we have already been deliberating for three days and most of the time is taken by the Government. The Hon Minister has already given his Ministerial statement three times on the Bill. This is why

Mr Speaker I humbly ask for an opportunity, give us a chance to speak.

With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion shown by the Member is understood. I do not believe there is an issue here since I have been continuously been asking Members if they wanted to talk on the Bill. This will not be the last time to show our opinions there is still the Committee stage and the consideration in detail. As for the motion we are all witness that it has been seconded, thirded and fourthed. The Chair is aware of your determination to deliberate the matter further, also I have been asking Members to speak and voice opinions earlier. It is unfortunate but there is nothing much to do because we have to adhere to our Standing Orders.

*Motion approved.*

*The Citizenship Investment Bill 2014 was read a second time.*

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe we have....

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker I humbly ask that you overlook the issue seen here, a motion has been moved yet there is also another one that was made earlier.

**MR SPEAKER:** I have already explained this issue. Afioga Palusalue Faapo II, the matter has already been clarified. It was the Hon Prime Minister that seconded the second motion moved. It has been seconded so we could adjourn Proceedings. As I already stated this is not the end of our discussions in relation to the Bill tabled.

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The important aspect here is that the matter has already been clarified with our day long Proceedings. I appease Members but there are still considerations that are yet to be done for referral to Committee. There is also work to be done on scheduling our Orders for consideration in detail together with other measures that might be mentioned in the future. Well I believe we have....

Pursuant to Standing Orders, the Bill will now be referred to the Justice, Police and Prisons and Land and Titles Court Committee for consideration before a report is submitted to the Legislative Assembly.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a Point of clarification, since Opposition wanted to notify that we do not support this second reading. The Chair has not stated the approval of the second reading of the Bill. The only matter discussed was approving the motion to adjourn deliberations on the Bill but you did not mention the approval of the second reading. Therefore I have taken the floor to notify that Members and constituencies of this Party do not support the Bill since our sitting is going to be adjourned. The Chair has yet to put the Question on whether the second reading of the Bill should be approved. It seems that your will has won over our request to voice an opinion together with disregarding the rules of the House.

**MR SPEAKER:** Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II this is not the intention the Chair is trying to convey, it is to uphold our Standing Orders. If you must know we have been deliberating this Bill for nearly a week, we have discussed, answered and considered all parts and I have noted every part of these deliberations. I already mentioned that this is not the last time for us to discuss the Bill. There will be another opportunity during the consideration by the Committee where you can submit written opinions related to the Bill. I heard you stated that this matter is an easy one well it is not, I am sure the Clerk and office are witnesses of this ongoing debate as is the country listening in. I appease Members because the Chair is trying to resolve the issue and trying to make sure it stays on track. The decision made is all up to the Members whether they agree or not. The same goes for the Opposition. This does not mean to say that we are ignoring provisions since we are yet to carry out the third reading and consider the Bill in detail. I ask that we be vigilant of opportunities given because this does not mean the end of it. Therefore I recommend Members not be alarmed, the Committee sittings are open for further suggestions, which is under the Justice, Police and Prisons Committee. This is where opinions and recommendations are to be submitted before the Bill is tabled again in the House for the third reading and consideration in detail. I am well aware of the matter you are trying to convey in relation to that side of Parliament. I believe we have reached....

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**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker there is an issue I want to understand. Does this mean that we will just leave it as it is, we will not pass the second reading of the Bill?

**MR SPEAKER:** I have already made my conclusion and all is in agreement. I believe you have heard that all Members are in agreement with the Bill.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker it is the Chair that makes the final decision therefore once you say it is approved then that is it. I am used to this behavior, when the Government takes the floor Afioga Palusalue Faapo II also stands up. When we say it is enough, he also says it is enough. This is also what happened the previous sitting. The Government gave several responses to the queries made but the Opposition is always interrupting especially the Member for Faleata West. This is one Member that requested we pass the Bill now but the Government was willing to still work on it.

As I mentioned earlier if we do reach tomorrow then we will still be sitting. The country has heard the opinion voiced by Afioga Palusalue Faapo II requesting for recess. Mr Speaker I strongly believe that your decision is quite accurate.

**Tofa Lefau Harry Schuster:** Mr Speaker I humbly request a brief minute.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member Tofa Lefau Harry Schuster.

**Tofa Lefau Harry Schuster (Vaimauga West):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. It is my understanding that we are discussing the motion passed.

Mr Speaker, a Point of Order in accordance to our Standing Orders. It states that whatever the decision made by the Chair it is the one that should be adhered. A motion moved should be seconded as stated in the Standing Orders. The only issue here Mr Speaker that saddens me is, if we follow Standing Orders this side will not have the opportunity to question matters. This is a result to the majority of the Members in Government. The only request of this side is to be given the opportunity to voice an opinion.

I am disappointed by this thus the Speaker and Member who spoke on the Bill has already mentioned it, a warning on this democratic process is 'tyranny of majority.' I am saddened with the results today since that side has the majority thus we were only asking for an opportunity. Thank you for the opportunity.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well, Members of this side have spoken again although this is the decision of the Chair and the matter is now resolved.

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**Citizenship Investment Bill 2014**  
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As I stated earlier this is not the last time for deliberations. This is not the last time we will be discussing this matter. I recommend Members that queries and recommendations are taken to the Committee before resubmission into the House. I am satisfied with the motion moved thus I have approved the second reading of this Bill.

This means that this is the conclusion of deliberations on this second reading. I believe all Members of the House have come to understand the matter hence the agreement of the Government also portrays the Opposition. I appease Members for any misunderstanding; we cannot rehash work already completed. The question has been put and has been approved.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Thank you Mr Speaker. This side will accept this decision thus the country is the judge on this resolution. I move with respect to voice that constituencies of this party object the Bill. I just want to convey this so it will be noted that we object this Bill.

**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion of the Member is solely noted.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** I apologize to the Chair, this Member does not wish to change the decision made by the Chair.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member for Faleata West.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** This Member will not change the outcome of the matter. I just want to clarify that we did not come into Parliament to voice opinions in Committees. We came to voice our opinions for Samoa to hear and validate.

As for this Bill I strongly object to it. I want to voice this because the Bill is a controversial one. Mr Speaker we do not have the same opinions. Unfortunately it is the Government itself that has terminated their own hard work.

**MR SPEAKER:** I appease the Member I am confident that you understand the work of Committee. If you are honest with saying that you support recommendations then take it to the Committee. I have made the decision that suits the issue debated.

I call on the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala:** Mr Speaker the previous Member stated that he is speaking on behalf of the Constituency despite there being two Members. I support the Bill in consideration to the employment opportunities that will be gained by this Constituency. As the Leader of Opposition has stated the development of the Constituency is not fruitful.

With respect.

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**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** I ask that the Member not try to be a Good Samaritan to the Constituency.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala:** Mr Speaker the constituency is listening in to the promises made by the Leader of Opposition.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Do you know what is happening, the Constituency is not allowed to speak on the Bill? Are you aware of this? The Constituency has no opportunity to speak on the Bill.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala:** There is still another opportunity as mentioned by the Chair. Do not try and mislead the Constituency. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Hon Minister of Revenue.

**Tofa Hon Tuiloma Lameko:** I believe these are difficult times in our Parliament thus I am one of the eldest Members of this Parliament. In Parliament the announcement made by the Chair is the one that is most respected. The Opposition we have heard the Hon Prime Minister and Mr Speaker has responded. I have been here in Parliament for a long time and nothing like this has ever happened. There was always respect. I do not say this because I want to reprimand you; it is not although we should adhere to the word given by the Chair. The duty of the Speaker is not simple, why did we even have a Speaker? The Chair is the power of authority within the Parliament and during sittings. Let us assist him with his work and let us all work together. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** I want to thank the Hon Minister. I appease the Member Afualo Wood Salele to heed my humble request. If Members may recall I have been trying to clarify this issue more than ten times. I pray that Members try and understand the decisions that I am trying to convey. I do not mean to say that your opinions are not important. There are two other opportunities still left which is the deliberation of Committee and the consideration in detail. I cannot discourage Members to voice their opinions *in relation to the matter. Although what has it result too? It has only resulted to disagreement. No matter what the decision is made it is done through the consent of us all. Most of the Members have voiced their opinions on the matter hence a motion has also been moved, where would you suggest I lead towards? I always follow the provisions that are stated within our Standing Orders.*

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**Citizenship Investment Bill 2014**  
– second reading debate continued

I want to thank all Members of the House for our Proceedings today. Today we heard the resignation of the Member for Sagaga le Usoga. I am certain we did not predict what has taken place here today. I take this opportunity to convey my heartfelt thanks to the Member, I pray that the Lord bless and guide him and his Constituency.

I want to thank all Members of the House for queries and recommendations voiced in our deliberations today. As the Chair, I have tried to evaluate the matter in accordance to the Standing Orders of the House thus the Lord is my guidance.

I pray to the Committee in charge of evaluating the Bill to be vigilant in deliberating this matter. No matter the various recommendations and queries I pray that you do well.

We have now reached our usual recess I believe we will meet again at the next sitting in March. I pray that the Lord give us strength and good health to carry forward our daily work and Parliamentary duties.

Lastly I want to acknowledge the support of all Samoa who are listening to our Proceedings. I apologize for any misconception or immoral behavior portrayed by Members of your Parliament.

Before we conclude today I call on the Hon Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries to end our Proceedings with a prayer.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were adjourned at 5:39pm until 9:00am Tuesday, 17 March 2015.*