

TUESDAY, 29 JANUARY 2019

Speaker took the Chair at 9:00am.

Prayer.

MR SPEAKER: I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly has commenced. I take this opportunity to humbly greet the attendance of the Parliament, the Hon Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, distinguished Members of Cabinet, Associate Ministers, Chairpersons of Parliamentary Committees and all Members of Parliament.

I further greet and acknowledge the Heads of Government Ministries and Corporations especially the Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and the ongoing service by the Police officers. I applaud your tolerance and patience in your attendance this morning.

TOBACCO CONTROL AMENDMENT BILL 2019
– third reading

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA (Minister of Health): Mr Speaker, thank you for this opportunity. I acknowledge the accord present here for our Parliamentary session today. I acknowledge the Speaker of the House and distinguished Members of the Parliament. I acknowledge the prayer of thanksgiving voiced to God for safeguarding the Parliament of Samoa to its Chambers. Having said that I acknowledge the Speaker of the House for steering our Sitting which has been smooth sailing under your leadership. I note and acknowledge the deliberations of the Members in regards to our orders of business from the first Sitting day to today.

Mr Speaker I move the motion, *That the Tobacco Control Amendment Bill 2019 be read a third time.*

Seconded by the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labor and the Minister of Tourism.

Motion approved and the Bill was read a third time and had passed the Legislative Assembly.

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EDUCATION AMENDMENT BILL 2019

– third reading

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETEELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI (Prime Minister): Mr Speaker I move the motion, *That the Education Amendment Bill 2019 be read a third time.*

Secinded by the Minister of Health.

Motion approved and the Bill was read a third time and passed the Legislative Assembly.

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL 2019

– third reading

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETEELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker I stand to move the motion, *That the Constitution Amendment Bill 2019 be read a third time.*

Secinded by the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labor and the Minister of Health.

MR SPEAKER: In accordance to the Constitution Article 109 (1), a bill is supported at its third reading by the votes of not less than two-thirds of the total number of Members of Parliament. I call on the Clerk to ring the bell for 2 minutes.

QUESTION: Question whether the motion shall be approved, those who are in affirmative in opinion please rise. Once your names have been called please be seated.

DIVISION VOTE S.O.93 (1)

1. Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofieteele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi.
2. Afioga Hon Fiame Naomi Mataafa.
3. Afioga Hon Lautafi Fio Selafi Purcell.
4. Afioga Hon Tuitama Talalelei Tuitama.
5. Afioga Hon Sala Fata Pinati.
6. Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang.
7. Tofa Hon Lopao Natanielu Mua.

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**Constitution Amendment Bill 2019
– third reading**

8. Tofa Hon Faimalotoa Kika Iemaima Stowers.
9. Afioga Hon Sili Epa Tuioti.
10. Afioga Hon Faaolesa Katopau T. Ainuu.
11. Afioga Hon Afamasaga Lepuiai Rico Tupai.
12. Afioga Taefu Lemi.
13. Afioga Tuifaasisina Misa Lisati Leleisiuao Palemene.
14. Afioga Salausa John Ah Ching.
15. Afioga Amituanai Fagaivalu Kenrick Samu.
16. Susuga Seiuli Ueligitone Ueligitone.
17. Tofa Hon Faasootauloa Pati Taulapapa.
18. Afioga Tofa Foleni Tama Galu.
19. Susuga Mulipola Leiataua Laki.
20. Tofa Lenatai Victor Faafoi Tamapua.
21. Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta.
22. Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga.
23. Tofa Hon Lauofo Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Lauofo.
24. Afioga Tafua Maluelue Tafua.
25. Afioga Hon Gatoloaifaana Amataga Alesana Gidlow.
26. Afioga Toomata Aki Tuipea.
27. Tofa Nonu Lose Niumata.
28. Afioga Aliimalemanu Alofa Tuuau.
29. Afioga Tapulesatele Mauteni Tamasone Metuli II Esera.
30. Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Duffy-Stowers.
31. Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai.
32. Tofa Nafaitoa Talaimanu Ketu.
33. Tofa Ili Setefano Taateo Tafili.
34. Afioga Faalogo Iosefa Sopi.
35. Afioga Sulamanaia Fetaiai Tauiliili Tuivasa.
36. Afioga Faumuina Asi Pauli Wayne Fong.
37. Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo.
38. Afioga Leaana Ronnie Posini.
39. Afioga Toleafoa Ken Vaafusuaga Poutoa.

AYES – 39

MR SPEAKER: Those who oppose the Motion please rise.

1. Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea.

NAYE – 1

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**Electoral Bill 2019
- third reading**

MR SPEAKER: The result of our Division Voting on the Constitution Amendment Bill 2019.

Those who are in favor of the Motion is 39. Those who oppose the Motion, is 1.

Motion approved and the Bill was read a third time and had passed the Legislative Assembly.

**ELECTORAL BILL 2019
- third reading**

Afioga Hon FAAOLESA KATOPAU T. AINUU (Minister of Justice, Courts and Administrations): Mr Speaker, I move the motion, *That the Electoral Bill 2019 be read a third time.*

Seconded by the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Communications and Information Technology.

Motion approved and the Bill was read a third time and had passed the Legislative Assembly.

**ELECTORAL COMMISSION BILL 2019
- third reading**

Afioga Hon FAAOLESA KATOPAU T. AINUU: Mr Speaker I stand to move a motion, *That the Electoral Commission Bill 2019 be read a third time.*

Seconded by the Minister of Communication and Information Technology.

Motion approved and the Bill was read a third time and had passed the Legislative Assembly.

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CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL (No.2) 2019
– third reading

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker, I stand with respect to move a motion, *That the Constitutional Amendment Bill (No.2) be read a third time.*

Seconded by the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour.

MR SPEAKER: In accordance to the Constitution Article 109 (1), a bill is supported at its third reading by the votes of not less than 2/3 of the total number of Members of Parliament. I call on the Clerk to ring the bell for 2 minutes.

QUESTION: Those who are in favor of the Motion, please rise. Once your names have been called, please be seated.

DIVISION VOTE

1. Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi.
2. Afioga Hon Fiaame Naomi Mataafa.
3. Afioga Hon Lautafi Fio Selafi Purcell.
4. Afioga Hon Tuitama Talalelei Tuitama.
5. Afioga Hon Sala Fata Pinati.
6. Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang.
7. Tofa Hon Lopao Natanielu Mua.
8. Tofa Hon Faimalotoa Kika Iemaima Stowers.
9. Afioga Hon Tialavea Fea Leniu Tionisio Hunt.
10. Afioga Hon Sili Epa Tuioti.
11. Afioga Loau Sola Keneti Sio.
12. Afioga Hon Faaolesa Katopau T. Ainuu.
13. Afioga Hon Afamasaga Lepuiai Rico Tupai.
14. Afioga Taefu Lemi.
15. Afioga Tuifaasisina Misa Lisati Leleisiuao Palemene.
16. Afioga Salausa John Ah Ching.
17. Afioga Amituanai Fagaivalu Kenrick Samu.
18. Susuga Seiuli Ueligitone Ueligitone.
19. Tofa Hon Faasootauloa Pati Taulapapa.
20. Tofa Sooalo Umi Feo Mene.
21. Afioga Tofa Foleni Lio Tama Galu.
22. Susuga Mulipola Leiataua Laki.
23. Afioga Alaiasa Muagututia Moefaauouo Sepulona Moananu.
24. Tofa Lenatai Victor Faafoi Tamapua.

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**Constitution Amendment Bill (No.2) 2019
– third reading**

25. Tofa Lealailupule Rimoni Aiafi.
26. Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta.
27. Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga.
28. Tofa Hon Lauofo Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Lauofo.
29. Afioga Tafua Maluelue Tafua
30. Afioga Hon Gatoloaifaana Amataga Alesana Gidlow.
31. Afioga Toomata Aki Tuipea.
32. Tofa Nonu Lose Niumata.
33. Afioga Aliimalemanu Alofa Tuuau.
34. Afioga Tapulesatele Mauteni Tamasone Metuli II Esera.
35. Afioga Afoa Amituanai Faleulu Maui.
36. Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Duffy-Stowers.
37. Tofa Nafotoa Talaimanu Ketu.
38. Tofa Ili Setefano Taateo Tafili.
39. Afioga Faalogo Iosefa Sopi.
40. Afioga Sulamanaia Fetaiai Tauiliili Tuivasa.
41. Afioga Faumuina Asi Pauli Wayne Fong.
42. Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo.
43. Afioga Leaana Ronnie Posini.
44. Afioga Toleafoa Ken Vaafusuaga Poutoa.

AYES – 44

MR SPEAKER: Those who oppose the Motion please rise.

1. Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai.
2. Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea.

NAYE - 2

MR SPEAKER: The result of the Division Vote on the Constitution Amendment Bill (No.2) 2019. Those who are in favor of the Motion is 44. Those who oppose the Motion is 2.

Motion approved and the Constitution Amendment Bill (No.2) 2019 was read a third time and had passed the Legislative Assembly.

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga (Palauli le Falefa): Mr Speaker, for the purpose of getting our records straight, five to six people were absent in the first Vote with the result of 46 to 1. However, we now have an additional 4 Members and the count is now 42 to 2. For setting the correct count, see if the count is accurate because the first count is incorrect, it should not be 46 to 1, it should be 39 to 1.

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Constitution Amendment Bill (No.2) 2019
– third reading

We just have an additional 5 Members yet the second vote is now lesser. The casting vote should not be less than the first vote. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly will review and ensure the amendments of the casting votes as voiced by the Member for Palauli le Falefa. I recognize the Deputy Prime Minister.

Afioga Hon Fiame Naomi Mataafa (Deputy Prime Minister): Mr Speaker while we are amending the results of the votes, I have noted for the second vote now the calling of the names of the Members of the Chamber. Therefore, I recommend the Clerk to correct the name of the Member for Faasaleleaga No.1 West. The Parliamentary addressing of those who served as Ministers of the Cabinet are addressed as Honorable. It is noted that the addressing is applied to other Members who are no longer in Cabinet. Therefore, I recommend the Clerk to use proper address for all Members. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. I acknowledge the reminder voiced by the Deputy Prime Minister in regards to the Parliamentary protocols to the staff. I apologize to the distinguished Members of Parliament and especially those who held Ministerial posts in the Cabinet for the lack of acknowledgement on our part. I reiterate to the staff that the title Honorable is used to address esteemed Members for their service in Cabinet and to further review the correction as mentioned by the Member for Palauli le Falefa.

MR SPEAKER: I recognize the Hon Minister of Communications and Information Technology.

Afioga Hon Afamasaga Lepuiai Rico Tupai (Minister of Communication and Information Technology): Mr Speaker, if there is a consideration of assistance in regards to the count of our votes as the nation is in audience. I also did my counts for both votes.

The first vote Mr Speaker is 44 to 1. The second is 47 to 2. I offer these tally counts to our Office. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. I recognize the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoui: Mr Speaker, it is very important that we call out the accurate numbers because the nation is in audience.

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**Constitution Amendment Bill (No.2) 2019
– third reading**

This incident reminds of the backwards count we did once before the firing of fireworks. The man who counted was a Leulumoega around 40+ and I was under the impression that his mathematics was good. During his count, he started from 10, 9, 7, 4 and totally missed 6 and 5 and went straight to 4. It is why I have noticed that there are four people counting sitting there, but do keep a proper attempt to our count, this is good for the sake of Samoa. The passing mark/number required to pass the motion should be 34 and I suppose we have passed that number as the count has exceeded 40. However, I wish to reiterate the importance of the constituents observing their Members who are for the Bill and those who are against it. These amendments to the Constitution is very crucial. The Government does not amend anything that will jeopardize the country. The reason why these amendments are made is because it is significantly important and is useful for the implementation of projects and developments to its entirety as we move forward in the future.

Mr Speaker that is my addition to the matter.

MR SPEAKER: The final count of the Division Vote on the Constitutional Amendment Bill 2019, those who approved the motion, 39 and those who opposed, 1.

The final result for the Constitution, those who supported it, 44, and those who opposed the motion, 2.

This is the notice with respect. I apologize for the errors beforehand.

Afioga Aliimalemanu Alofa Tuuau (Alataua West): Mr Speaker, it is not important but it should be corrected. It is quite simple, Pau is not present and so as Peseta and Hon Loan just arrived, hence it should 4 in total and the total votes should come up to 46. I mean it should be 45 as Afoa has not yet arrived. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. In accordance to normal procedures and Standing Orders, the main thing is that 2/3 of the total amount of Parliament is there in order to pass the Bill. It is evident that the Chamber has surpassed the needed amount in order to approve the Bill with reference to the voting results of only one Member opposing for the first vote and two for the second vote.

I would take this opportunity to sincerely apologize to the Parliament for the failing of the Office to play their part correctly. Things like this happen and thus I must apologize to all of Samoa listening in. There are times when we make mistakes. As such, we bid your forgiveness, we will have the correct result for the sake of our records.

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CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL (No.3) 2019
– third reading

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker, I stand to move a motion, *That the Constitution Amendment Bill (No.3) 2019 be read a third time.*

Seconded by the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labor and the Minister of Health.

MR SPEAKER: In accordance to the Constitution Article 109 (1), the provisions should have the support of not less than 2/3 of the total number of votes for Parliament. I call on the Clerk to ring the bell for 2 minutes.

QUESTION: Whether the Motion is approved, those in favor of the Motion please rise. Once your names have been called please take your seats.

DIVISION VOTE

1. Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi.
2. Afioga Hon Fiame Naomi Mataafa.
3. Afioga Hon Lautafi Fio Selafi Purcell.
4. Afioga Hon Tuitama Talalelei Tuitama.
5. Afioga Hon Sala Fata Pinati.
6. Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang.
7. Tofa Hon Lopao Natanielu Mua.
8. Tofa Hon Faimalotoa Kika Iemaima Stowers.
9. Afioga Hon Tialavea Fea Leniu Tionisio Hunt.
10. Afioga Hon Sili Epa Tuioti.
11. Afioga Loau Sola Keneti Sio.
12. Afioga Hon Faaolesa Katopau T. Ainuu.
13. Afioga Hon Afamasaga Lepuiai Rico Tupai.
14. Afioga Taefu Lemi.
15. Afioga Tuifaasisina Misa Lisati Leleisiuao Palemene.
16. Afioga Salausa John Ah Ching.
17. Afioga Amituanai Fagaivalu Kenrick Samu.
18. Susuga Seiuli Ueligitone Ueligitone.
19. Tofa Hon Faasootauloa Pati Taulapapa.
20. Tofa Sooalo Umi Feo Mene.
21. Afioga Tofa Foleni Lio Tama Galu.
22. Susuga Mulipola Leiatua Laki.
23. Afioga Alaiasa Muagututia Moefaauouo Sepulona Moananu.

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**Constitution Amendment Bill (No.2) 2019
– third reading**

24. Tofa Lenatai Victor Faafoi Tamapua.
25. Tofa Lealailupule Rimoni Aiafi.
26. Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta.
27. Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga.
28. Tofa Hon Lauofo Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Lauofo.
29. Afioga Tafua Maluelue Tafua
30. Afioga Hon Gatoloaifaana Amataga Alesana Gidlow.
31. Afioga Toomata Aki Tuipea.
32. Tofa Nonu Lose Niumata.
33. Afioga Aliimalemanu Alofa Tuuau.
34. Afioga Tapulesatele Mauteni Tamasone Metuli II Esera.
35. Afioga Afoa Amituanai Faleulu Mauli.
36. Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Duffy-Stowers.
37. Tofa Nafaitoa Talaimanu Ketu.
38. Tofa Ili Setefano Taateo Tafili.
39. Afioga Faalogo Iosefa Sopi.
40. Afioga Sulamanaia Fetaiai Tauilili Tuivasa.
41. Afioga Faumuina Asi Pauli Wayne Fong.
42. Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo.
43. Afioga Leaana Ronnie Posini.
44. Afioga Toleafoa Ken Vaafusuaga Poutoa.

AYES – 44

MR SPEAKER: Those who oppose the Motion please rise.

1. Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai.
2. Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea.

NAY – 2

MR SPEAKER: The result of the Division Vote on the Constitution Amendment Bill (No.3) 2019 is as follows; those who are in favor of the Motion are 44, those who oppose the Motion are 2.

Motion approved and the Constitution Amendment Bill (No.3) 2019 was read a third time and had passed the Legislative Assembly.

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ELECTORAL CONSTITUENCIES BILL 2019
 – third reading

Afioga Hon FAAOLESA KATOPAU T. AINUU: Mr Speaker I move a motion, *That the Electoral Constituencies Bill 2019 be read a third time.*

Seconded by the Minister of Communication and Information Technology and the Minister of Education, Sports and Culture.

Motion approved and the Bill was read a third time and had passed the Legislative Assembly.

MR SPEAKER: Well, I take this opportunity to acknowledge the distinguished Members of the Parliament and most especially the Cabinet for your tolerance and patience in regards to our work this morning. It is well known that error and mistakes are part of our lives and I refer this to the service rendered by the Office of the Legislative Assembly. I voice sincere apologies on behalf of the Office in relation to the miscalculations of our division voting tally. I have firm belief the Lord will guide and reform services and mistakes of the past to shape better thoughts for the future. Nevertheless, the Chair is reliant on the Leaders of the nation and fathers of the country to forgive this error in service. On that note the Orders of the day for the Legislative Assembly has been concluded. Before we retire for the day I grant this opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister to issue statements in conclusion of our order of business. Parliaments work has not been easy and so therefore I call on the Hon Prime Minister for your concluding remarks.

**PRIME MINISTER STATEMENT AND MOTION OF
 ADJOURNMENT**

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker, distinguished Members of the Chamber we have now concluded our business for the day. It is continuation of our orders from the previous year in December. We have now concluded and what more is there to say? We can only voice our thanks and gratitude to the Speaker of the House for steering our sessions. I therefore acknowledge the Chair for patiently steering our sessions. I note your state of health and pray the Lord blesses you with continued renewed strength so as to continue your duty as Chair of the Chamber.

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Prime Minister Statement and Motion of Adjournment

I greet and acknowledge the House and Members of the Parliament for the work of this sitting period. It is important to maintain our duty as Parliamentarians, to carry out the work to the best of our abilities as give in our oaths. It is the crucial right of the Parliamentarian to speak what they believe is the right thing to do for the betterment of the entire country in various areas. There are times when the tide shifts and the storm rumbles in terms of statements voiced out, but that is the norm of politics. In the saying, "*E tetele Pesega ae matua lava ile Oo,*" meaning water overflow in Pesega and disappears in o o.

The Proceeding is close to finish and we, the Cabinet and the public servants will be attending to the recommendations submitted by the Members of the House. It is our duty as public servants to carry out the work we were elected to do based on the knowledge and skills God gave us as Parliamentarians. We can never remove our spiritual beliefs and our callings from God to do good works for our people who elected us. We decide whilst God makes our callings. We must all work towards bettering our nation.

Moreover, I encourage the Committee Members to continue with your work as scrutinizers. The Cabinet further recommends the Chief Executive Officers about their presence when we have the Committee hearings to ensure that the queries put forth by Committee Members are clarified and properly answered. This would avoid the confusion and disappointment of Members. In the Chamber, I stress the importance of Chief Executive Officers and their recommendations to their Ministerial levels; do not hesitate to voice what must be done.

I direct my statements to the party having the majority in Parliament; the HRPP Party is still conducting Meetings. I reiterate the importance of voicing concerns and recommendations. The Chief Executive Officers and Members continuously meet to consult on the progress of developments and projects. It is one of the ways that constituency development is ensured. It can be noted that the Cabinet continues to make visitations with constituencies during project developments. The Cabinet Members ensure they are present because without their presence we cannot fully fathom what our constituents need. The presence of Cabinet Members ensures the smooth progress of developments.

It is also a manifest of good governance and transparency. It is crucial to ensure the nation is aware of the projects and developments through televised updates and reports of project completion and so forth. The Cabinet will not stop with its duty of notifying the public on where the money is being spent.

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Prime Minister Statement and Motion of Adjournment

The progress of our works during this Sitting was in consideration of the Supplementary and a few of the Bills. The Chamber has approved quite a number of Bills. However, it is important to stress that this Supplementary Budget is only needed to complete unfinished projects that must be completed. The approval of the Parliament is needed to complete laid out programs that have already been set out for the financial year ending June of this year. All other projects are included in the Main Estimates. It is important to reiterate that developments and projects of the State are continuously in progress. We have heard news updates from the CNN about the Government shut down in the United States of America, why? It is because even great nations like America operate using their Main Estimates. Even when money runs out the federal Government shuts down. It is not the first time for this occurrence in the United States as other Presidents did the same before. Therefore, the procedure that is carried out by the large developed nations is also being practiced in Samoa.

It is important to reiterate that there is nothing to worry about in regards to the Supplementary Appropriation. It is noted on talks by ignorant people who refuse to understand claiming that, “we are indebted and we make more debts to pay other debts.” However, the amount \$154million is left after the debt payment and State funds have been allocated, thus it is being used by the Government for its developments. Why? The developments Mr Speaker allows the Government to address the issues affiliated with developments. What are these issues?

Mr Speaker from the beginning of this Term close to its end, there would have been hundreds of newborns citizens in our nation from that time until the end of the Term. Therefore, it is important to continuously seek other avenues to fund our projects. As mentioned before, the remaining \$154million is to be used for the health services and building schools for children being born each year. The \$154million is further used for other occurrences like the 20 scholarship students who were declined by the New Zealand administration. The Cabinet Directive provided for these students cost over half a million.

Secondly the Parliamentary Term further contributes to the State through the approval of the Constituency boundary in recognizing and addressing the issue of unbalanced ration of (people to Member of Parliament) in constituencies. There are constituencies that are over populated but have one Member of Parliament. Therefore, the Electoral Constituency Bill provides for the allotted number of people adequate for the Member of Parliament. Again, it is not new as this has been approved before with regards to the borders of Safata, Faasaleleaga No.1 and Salega, Individual Voters and Independent Voters along with the Falealili constituency. We are now at the end of amendments. The state of our elections in the last 28 years has been finalized by HRPP.

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Prime Minister Statement and Motion of Adjournment

It began with Samoa's Universal Suffrage which deemed women and untitled men the right to vote back in 1962 and was only successful in 1991. Our ancestors granted us the ability to change the Constitution in the right time. The Leaders of the nation cannot do anything that could harm our constituencies. It is our calling from God to come here to not only swing idly on the chairs, but do the work we were called to do.

The other contributing factor for this Parliamentary Term is the consideration of the constant issue faced with the Land and Titles Court and the importance of the Community Law Centre. It is common knowledge that the Court House faces numerous cases each day with regards to titles, lands and domestic conflicts. There is a major setback in the progress of the work according to the last statistics where we had over three hundred court appeals. Furthermore, the border of Atua was initially discussed in 1989, 1999, 2009 and now 2019; it has been thirty years since its court ruling and yet its borders have just been surveyed.

There is a saying that goes, "Justice delayed is Justice denied," and in order to alleviate this issue there needs to be stability in maintaining the separation of powers and in the upholding of the democratic principles. Hence the Community Law Centre created by the Parliament and undergoing the normal channels of a Bill in Parliament. Transparency is important in ensuring good governance and so the Bill was referred to the Committee for its recommendations. Opportunity was provided for the members of the public to voice their concerns and their recommendations on this Bill. Once gain we had its tabling and thus had the approval of Parliament.

In my observation of this Term, these are the two major contributions for the approval of the Community Law Centre; it is our assistance to the courts. Parliament is the main authority that can provide assistance that is firm and official for the public and court.

The second major contribution is the approval of the electoral constituency to better our voting system. I note the recommendations of the Members in the previous Sitting and thus the approval of the Constitution Amendment. The objective is to better the future of the State. It is to ensure that the future of Samoa is peacefully guided and stable in the future. It is our duty and our calling as Members of Parliament.

It is why gratitude is voiced to the esteemed accord for the patience in our long Sitting hours so that we may consult over these crucial matters. This is the only Parliament in Samoa where Members elected by the constituents come together to represent their voices in Parliament. The honorary respect of the constituency has been bestowed upon its Members. Therefore, Mr Speaker I convey my gratitude.

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Prime Minister Statement and Motion of Adjournment

I pray to the Lord of wisdom, to continue to grant vision, fresh ideas and good health to the Members of Parliament in their duties in this Term. It is not long to go now as we are now half way through this Term. Having said that, I wish the Members of the Parliament all the best most importantly be vigilant and proactive in the remaining part of this Term. May the Lord bless our oratory and vision for the continuation of our duties as promised before the Lord.

Mr Speaker, I acknowledge the support of all of Samoa listening in. I greet His Highness, O Le Ao o le Malo and the Members of the Council of Deputies and the Judiciary. I greet all of Samoa in all its honorific salutations. Likewise, I acknowledge the support of the Servants of the Lord.

I conclude and voice my wish for many blessings from the Lord upon the Chamber. Soifua and God bless.

Mr Speaker, I move a motion, *That the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly be adjourned until Tuesday 19th March 2019 at 9.00am.*

Seconded by the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labor and the Minister of Health.

Motion approved.

MR SPEAKER: The Chamber has noted and observed the remarks of the Hon Prime Minister as voiced. It is in regards to the matters we have discussed in Parliament from the previous week. It was in clarification of some of the matters addressed for the understanding of the attendance and also all of Samoa listening, lest I forget the Church Ministers of the Gospel.

It is vital to remember our duty as Members of Parliament as we were elected by our constituency to be their leaders. The calling is that of sound judgment in the approval of things to best cater for all of Samoa and to avoid impartiality. The Prime Minister reiterated the importance of standing firm and having the boldness/courage to carry out our duties because our calling is one made by God so that we can conduct our duties with honesty without bearing biased.

I acknowledge the reminder of utilizing the opportunity wisely for Samoa. Rare opportunities like these often come so therefore it is important to make the best of the opportunity while we can.

I believe the statements of the Hon Prime Minister is sufficient for this month.

29 JANUARY 2019

Prime Minister Statement and Motion of Adjournment

The Chair requests the Members of the House to please guard your Parliamentary Papers as this is not our permanent Chamber. It is important to ensure that Papers presented to each Member is safeguarded for the work required for the sake of our Parliamentary Sittings. Furthermore, it will simplify the matter of packing up for the staff once our Sitting is concluded.

That is the notice for today. I firmly believe the Hon Prime Minister's address upon Samoa has been sufficient enough in acknowledging their support. Therefore, Samoa that is the remarks of your Parliament for today.

Before we adjourn as per the motion moved, I call on the Member for Falelatai and Samatau to conclude this Sitting in a prayer.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly adjourned at 10.27am until Tuesday, 19 March 2019 at 9.00am.