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WEDNESDAY, 20 JANUARY 2021

*Mr Speaker took the Chair at 9:25am.*

Prayer.

**MR SPEAKER:** I announce the resumption of Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly.

### OBITUARIES

**MR SPEAKER:** I announce with respect the passing of Tofa FIU Loimata II, who was a Member of Parliament for the Territorial Constituency of Faasaleleaga No.1.

1. Tofa FIU Loimata II was first elected as a Member of Parliament for the Territorial constituency of Faasaleleaga No.2 in the XII Parliamentary term from May 1996 until 2001.

He was a member of the House Committee, of the Privileges and Ethics Committee and the Trade, Commerce and Labour Committee in the year 1996 to 2001.

Tofa FIU Loimata II was a member of the Human Rights Protection Party HRPP.

2. I am also saddened to announce the passing of Afioga VAAFUSUAGA TOLEAFOA Ken Vaafusuaga Poutoa, who is currently a Member of Parliament for the Constituency of Lefaga and Faleaseela.

Afioga VAAFUSUAGA TOLEAFOA Ken Vaafusuaga Poutoa, was first elected as a Member of Parliament for the Territorial Constituency of Lefaga and Faleaseela in this 16th Parliament from the year 2016 until this year 2021 when God called upon him.

He was a member of the Privileges and Ethics Committee and the Economic Sector Committee this term.

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**Presentation of Papers**

Afioga VAAFUSUAGA TOLEAFOA Ken Vaafusuaga Poutoa was a member of the Human Rights Protection Party, HRPP.

Afioga VAAFUSUAGA TOLEAFOA Ken Vaafusuaga Poutoa passed away on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021 meaning it was yesterday.

On behalf of this Parliament I want to convey our condolences to the wives, children and families, especially to the constituencies that are dear to their hearts due to the absence of respectable Members because of the calling of our Heavenly Father. Therefore I respectfully call upon the House, to be upstanding to observe a minute of silence to show our respects to the members who have passed.

*Members stood for a minute to pay their respects to the members who have passed away.*

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

*The Clerk read out to the Assembly the list of Papers pursuant to S.O.49 (2).*

1. P.P.2020/2021 No.78, Samoa Senior Citizens Fund Annual Report 2019/2020.
2. P.P.2020/2021 No.79, Samoa Land Corporation Annual Report 2019/2020.
3. P.P.2020/2021 No.97, Samoa Life Assurance Corporation Annual Report 2020.
4. P.P.2020/2021 No.98, National University of Samoa Annual Report 2020.
5. P.P.2020/2021 No.99, Samoa Housing Corporation Annual Report 2020.
6. P.P.2020/2021 No.100, Samoa International Finance Authority Annual Report 2020.
7. P.P.2020/2021 No.101, Samoa Water Authority Annual Report 2019/2020.
8. P.P.2020/2021 No.102, Land Transport Authority Annual Report 2019/2020.
9. P.P.2020/2021 No.103, Samoa Ports Authority Annual Report 2019/2020.
10. P.P.2020/2021 No.104, Development Bank of Samoa Annual Report 2019/2020.

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11. P.P.2020/2021 No.105, Ombudsman State of Human Rights Report 2019/2020.
12. P.P.2020/2021 No.106, Central Bank of Samoa Annual Report 2019/2020.
13. P.P.2020/2021 No.107, Annual Report of the Unit Trust of Samoa 2019/2020.
14. P.P.2020/2021 No.108, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Annual Report 2019/2020.
15. P.P.2020/2021 No.109, Ministry of Public Enterprises Annual Report 2019/2020.
16. P.P.2020/2021 No.110, Samoa Post Office Annual Report 2019/2020.
17. P.P.2020/2021 No.111, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Annual Report 2019/2020.
18. P.P.2020/2021 No.118, Samoa Law Reform Commission Annual Report 2019/2020.
19. P.P.2020/2021 No.119, Ministry of Police, Prisons and Corrections Annual Report 2019/2020.
20. P.P.2020/2021 No.125, Samoa Sports Facilities Authority Annual Report 2019/2020.
21. P.P.2020/2021 No.126, Samoa Bureau of Statistics Annual Report 2019/2020.
22. S.R.2021/1, Tobacco Control (Licensing) Regulations 2020.

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2020/2021  
– continued debate on second reading – Day 2**

**MR SPEAKER:** Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were adjourned until yesterday after the speech by the member of Urban West. With utmost respect I call upon another member to speak upon our Supplementary Appropriation.

I see that one of the members of Falealili is upstanding. Apologies to the member of Falealili East, I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon TUILAEPA AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI (Prime Minister):** Mr Speaker, before we commence with our work this morning, I rise with reverence to thank God this morning, in guiding us back here and giving us good health to continue with our work.

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At the same time you have spoken to convey the condolences of this House to one of our brothers who has been our leader in the House for the betterment of our country in accordance with our calling. You have already conveyed a word of comfort. Not only is it comforting to all of us in this House who are grieving, but also to the grieving families because of Gods call upon the father of the family, the respectable members who represented their constituencies, Tofa Fiu Loimata as well as Afioga ia Vaafusuaga Toleafoa Ken.

Mr Speaker, we pray that they both find a permanent place in eternal life. There will be more words during the farewell ceremonies, which will be made during the Governments usual customary respects to the members who were once a part of building the Government of Samoa. The police force will stand respectfully and unfurl the flag of the Government of Samoa, to show our respects at the funeral services. I pray they both find permanent residence in heaven.

Taking the floor in regards to the progress of our orders, I want to commend all members who spoke yesterday. A special thanks to one of our Senior members who made his retiring farewell speech yesterday, Tofa Hon Faasootauloa Taulapapa. You have listened to the wonderful speech of the honorable member, and he said that in 1991 he entered this House, the member for the constituency of Saleaula, in whom they put their trust, and to assume the position through the will of his constituency, kings and nobles of the province.

The year 1991 saw the beginning of the new five-year Parliament, which has been 3 years since 1962, and then a proposal was made by the Leader of Government and those in Cabinet, that the Parliamentary term should be extended from 3 years to 5 years. Why? Because it is difficult to make long term plans, and to be concluded in 3 years, but the majority of these developments take more than 3 years, except for small projects that are done in a short period, the significance is also short lived on which General Elections decisions are based. That is the reason, it is sad that the HRPP did not get 2/3 of Parliament but a motion was still moved to amend the Constitution with the belief to leave it to God He will choose Government, He is also the one that implements good ideas for members in the House, just decisions that will build a Government founded in God. Mr Speaker this plan was implemented without majority, there was only one member left to make up 2/3, fortunately we found one member from the Opposition, despite the strong objection of the Leader of Opposition then, God showed mercy, God did bring the lamb to be sacrificed, to carry out this new amendment for the purpose it was founded, a conclusion was met and therefore progressed with 5-year term.

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There are some who believe that amendments of the Constitution, should not be done lightly. The idea is, God always gives the mindset to fix it and do what the Government knows it needs to do, and not just leave it.

Mr Speaker, I mention this because, the member is a senior of this House, from 1991 to 2021, and it has been 30 years since he has served this House. What is the message it portrays? It portrays the constituency's trust in the member to represent the constituency's dignity, especially the respects of Pule o Salafai.

Mr Speaker, this is the reason for taking the floor, 30 years, for each 5 years, there are 6 terms that was held by Tofa Hon Faasootauloa Taulapapa. It carries with it an important message for all of us. Members are appointed by God, it is a great benefit, as well as the consent of the constituency, because our appointments are from God, someone who has been embodied by the whisperings of the Lord.

Mr Speaker, this is a statement to encourage us to reflect on this morning and the calling, as one Preacher of the Bible stated, there are 3 trials for us, judgement made while we are alive. This means when the Lord calls upon us, the second judgement is made, but the judgement was made when you were alive. When you die, your second judgement is made, this is to confirm the decision made then there is the final judgement, this is when the Lord comes from heaven to make the final decision of the judgement which is the same judgement made in the first and second and third trial. The whole aspect by which our judgement is measured, is our work, do our work justly, and have mercy.

Mr Speaker, this is a brief statement this morning to start off our work. Blessings upon those who will be chosen to speak today.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well. Thank you for the speech which portrays your leadership, and it is now understood by the Parliament and the country.

I call upon the member of Falealili East, Afioga Gafatasi, Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo.

**Afioga FUIMAONO TEO SAMUELU TEO (Falealili East):** I believe that at times and days like this, days of darkness are surrounded by voices of love. We second the praises and word of thanks conveyed by the Speaker to our Lord Almighty this morning, for His love that has us here safely in good health. I am encouraged to take the floor this morning in regards to my late brother, I pray for blessings on my speech for I will speak first this morning. However, he has left us without listening to my speech.

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Well, Vaafusuaga Ken, give me your support while I try and convey a word, wherever it ends, whether my speech will finish or not, that is us.

Thank you Mr Speaker, for the opportunity given to this constituency to voice my gratitude to my beloved constituency of Falealili East or constituency No.2, I also want to give a special thanks to our church leaders preaching Christianity, also I want to thank my relatives residing in several parts of Samoa.

I also want to convey thanks to the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, to the men and women Ministers for the work carried out that has included this constituency. We are nearing the conclusion of this term, and our duties are seen fruitful.

Oh God, from the mountain of Jacob, the Master of creation, the Lord of Peace, the Father of tolerance, King of patience, thou art thy Lord. May your love prevail, may your peace reign in Samoa. The tribulations encountered and the extensiveness of the life of the person, is not the same with your will. You were the one that has guided us Lord Almighty. I bow before you with admiration for leading Samoa through your blessings. It was difficult for our parents and forefathers trying to manage, but now our dreams have come true. Thank God the sun has set as its rays' dance on the glass sea which is reflected of the treetops, the five years of this XVI Parliamentary term is coming to an end. Samoa has faced many natural disasters, diseases, and problems, but you have been at the forefront which has resulted in the success of Samoa. You have inspired the vision of the Leader whom you have appointed from heaven to lead the people of Samoa, a bunch of grapes that was made for the sacrifice of a prosperous Samoa, its fragrance has now spread throughout the world. The foresight, the foresight that embraces our country, especially the plans through compassion for the benefit of all Samoa. You have into account our insignificance, also our weaknesses. We are useless servants before you, however you know our insignificance but still you guided our journey, thank you Lord. May the Glory be with you now and forever. But never with us, may it never be with us Lord.

As are the words spoken on the villages where the first missionaries arrived in our country. *Taoto ia le tauluulufau o Satuala, na tonufia ai lalago o le folasa na sasamo ai le tauaifuefue. Taoto le faugagana o le Lilomaiava, na siisii manee i malae o tanifa ma le motumotutoa ma foafatu i maa. Taoto le fauula o le Tuiatua na lefulefu ai le sigano laufasafasa i le faga o Oloula. Taoto le malama na talitali i le utumalie i Mataniufeagaimaleata. Taoto le fagafua na logopapa i Faleu ma Utuagiagi, taoto le osogavasa i Falaulananamu ma le Laupulaa i Malaeola ma Gafoga.*

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*Taoto le faatafetafega nai le vai o tausala i le Vaotuitui ma le afi a Tiitiatalaga i Niniva ma Punialavaa, Fogalevai ma Fagaiava, Pilioua ma Fatuoletole.* Samoa is now enlightened, and the priests have rejoiced. These are the mornings of Christianity. John the Baptist rejoiced, idols and temples were sanctified, and also places for preaching. Thus this morning is a significant one where the paramount chiefs have gathered as well as dignified members, in this esteemed Chamber to make decisions for Samoa. Thank you.

As for the sermon made by Jesus on the Mount it stated, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”

I humbly greet the three pillars of Government, thus the respects of the dignity of Mulifanua. I humbly acknowledge His Excellency Le Ao o le Malo, Afioga Tuiaana Tuimalealiifano Vaaletoa Sualauvi II and your Goodlady. I acknowledge the respects of the Member of Council of Deputies and His GoodLady, Afioga Le Mamea Ropati son of Tuiaana Sagate, the respects of Tapusatele son of Salamasina, the first Tafaifa King of Samoa. Humble greetings to the Hon Prime Minister, a son of Malietoa, Susuga Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi, also the respects of Fatialofa and Auelua o Tama Punefu especially laaunafausia, the Leader of the House. I also greet dignified men and women Ministers of Cabinet.

Greetings to the Speaker of the House, and to all respectable members of Parliament, who have gathered here for Parliament Sitting this morning.

Greetings as well to the Chief Justice, Afioga Siatu Simativa and to the Judiciary. Greetings to the President, Afioga Fepuleai Attila Ropati and judges of the Land and Titles Court.

I acknowledge the presence of Chief Executives of Government Ministries and Corporations. Greetings to the Holy Servants preaching the spiritual word within several villages and constituencies. I am grateful for prayers and the word of God, conveyed for blessings upon Samoa and its Independent State.

Greetings to *Galuefa aua Tama ma o latou Aiga, o Aiga ma a latou Tama. Tulou aiga e tele e tausi e Tumua ma Pule, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga i le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti.* Greetings to the dignity of Samoa from the highest mountain to the lowest.

Greetings as well to our neighbors in Tutuila and Manua. Your Excellency the Governor General and the Lieutenant Governor of the two Houses. The respects of *Tama faasau ma Tama o le fuafuataga. Tama matutua ma tootoo o le faleagafulu o Sua ma le Vaifanua, Fofu ma Aitulagi Saole ma Saleaamua ma le Launiu Saelua. Upu o le ituau malosi ma le Alataua.*

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*Tulou le Laau na Amotasi ia Samoa, aua Faatuiolomotu, Pulafano ma le Vaimagalo, Samatuafaiga le faletolu, Saite, Sapua, Sasialei ma le Falefia, le auvaa o tootoo o le faleula tau aitu tau tagata ma upu ia te oe le Manuatele.* Those are the respects of Samoa that I pay humble respect towards.

Greetings to the respectful support of my beloved constituency of Falealili East which I am proud and gratified for, and it gives me the courage to do my best, to plant it in my heart. Greetings to the respects of Sa Fenunuivao you are one of the Elders of this village. The authority in the village and other respectable titles. Greetings to the humble servants of God, the ordained servants of God, who are praying for the blessings within our constituency. *Tulou ia le afifio o Sa Fenunuivao, Fuimaono o le Gafatasi ma ou alo tutusa, afio Lesiolagi o le Saoao, afio Sefuiva o le matualii, alalatai lau fetalaiga le tofa i le Igoamatua Tofuaiiofoia, Sa Taeleava ma le Fuaiala.*

Greetings to my village of Utulaelae *le afifio o Muagututia, Seugalii ma Tufugafale, tainane le alaalatai o le faletolu.*

I also greet my village of Sapoe aua *le afifio o alo o Samalaulu, Matuaao Taala ma Afegogo. Afio le matua o Alalatoa, alalatai Faatili ma le Faleono. Alalatai Gaopoa o le tulafale a le Tuiatua, ma lau fetalaiga Letoga Ulupuaa o le na faialaga.*

Greetings also to my village of Salesatele, respects of *Tapusatele le alo o Salamasina ae tainane foi le afifio o ou alo Alaifea ma Faleafaga. Afio lau afioga i le Aloalii Paitomaleifi, afio alo o Leilua, Sialega ma Fonoti. Alalatai le tama Malaelua, alalatai le aiga Talimalama. Susu lau susuga Leota alalatai le matua o Tama Malaelua, ae tainane foi le aiga Talimalama ma le nofoalo.*

*Tulou le afifio o le Taofia a moe Talalelei, Togialupe Teo ma Meleisea, alaalatai le taufa, talitoelau le sasala a le mosooi Taelega ma Lauao, le nofoaituaiga ma le Lauti na Laulelei.*

Greetings to the *aualama lealea o tausala ma augafaapae* of the constituency, greetings also to *aualama o tane* of the constituency. Greetings also to the youth and children who are the blessings of Falealili. The future leaders of Falealili East in the future. Those are the respects and dignities of my beloved constituency of Falealili East that I am proud to represent.

I am humbled, for the spirit of service has been accomplished thus I still want to serve for the honor of my beloved constituency. I take this opportunity to express from the bottom of my heart, my gratitude. I am your representative, and you have chosen this humble person into the House the Parliament of Samoa. To be your hands and feet, and your voice and your messenger to convey our needs and requests to the Government, I gladly do so for your satisfaction.



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If I am crowded, adorned with a necklace or given a traditional attire, I know this is because of your exaltation. You have put me on the high rock and made me your instrument. I am grateful for your care and comfort. Thank you for having me as a son, also a brother. Thank you very much, thank you for the prayers with a heart of sincerity. You have continuously prayed and voiced your support in my endeavors. Thank you for the foresight, the vision that was fortified and cultivated. I thank my constituency for the wisdom and patience.

I want to thank our spiritual leaders, for the blessings and prayers. I can feel the eternal love of the Lord in my body, because of your prayers. The prayers voiced day by day, so that Falealili East will be blessed in this Parliamentary term. Lord Almighty, I humbly ask for your blessings to be poured upon them and my beloved constituency.

My beloved families, word has been fulfilled of the Psalm of David, you have taken me to the winery, and this is the fruition of your love. Thou have not abandoned me but have embraced me as a light that shines to all families. This is your authority. Thank you for the adoration, this is why I am proud and see that these are the traits of a true Israelite. A prayer of your servant our requests have already been laid before Government, for the benefit of our constituency. There is understanding that what is good for Apia is also good for Falealili. I want to say to my constituency that there is no need to announce the work done by your humble. As the English saying goes, “Actions speak louder than words.” Work is more important than words. But you know and you have witnessed the work that has been done in this Parliamentary term. May the spirit of the Lord continue to bless ongoing work that need to be completed for the constituency.

But remember, the words of the elder Alma, one of the witnesses of Jesus Christ, he said, “counsel with God in all things.” Yes, when you lie down at night, lie down because of God that He may watch over you while you sleep. When you get up in the morning, let your heart be full of thanksgiving to God, if you do these things, you will be exalted in the last days. Do think that thoughts are only of God. This is an opinion of your member, counsel with God, do not be tempted by other revelations, but be counselled by the wisdom of God. The Lord will choose the candidate of Falealili East. And I believe I will be back.

I am grateful to the brethren who have raised their hand to serve, the truth is my constituency you have heard, and I have observed, their intent is for the blessings upon Falealili. Access roads, school improvements, water, electricity and a national sports field. It should be noted for the constituency, that funds allocated for a national field was returned, because we could not find land for it in the constituency.

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We have already met with Salesatele there was no land, even Siuniu and Ituvai. The second meeting we had with our village of Salani, we were directed with land up the access road, and it takes 10 minutes to drive in a car. This means by the time students get there it is already night.

This is the reason why the money was returned. If we do find a piece of land there will be funding available from the Ministry of Education, put aside by the Minister, there is a witness since he is not here. He has already given his authority together with funding for this field. This means the Government and the Ministry are awaiting on what land this development will be initiated. Thank you for your patience, I believe, this will also be a trait the candidates that will be competing will follow. For the improvement of our access roads, school buildings and setting up of a hospital. This is the same song this member has been voicing since 2016 until now. This means, eventhough the melodies are different, the song is the same. So why change a melody, when the song for Falealili is still sung well.

Well, thank you to the Government, also a brief appreciation to the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, I believe, I am another member that has been a nuisance to you because I would always come to you for the needs of my constituency. But thank you for responding, my constituency is thankful as the road has been measured.

This is the bypass road which is used during emergencies. It has now been measured from Salesatele going inland towards the last inhabitable house. We are now at the stage of bidding to implement this road. Utulaelae, we are also included in these roads, and our road will also be implemented this year.

And then we come to our access roads. But there is an objective, that the work will be implemented by your own members if they return to continue the work.

This member prays, as I only offer a suggestion, lest the constituency feel offended especially our *falelua*. I have carefully observed, alas, our father, his title shall not be lightly mentioned, the Afioga Tupua. The *Tama a Aiga*, adored by the family of *Sa Fenunuivao*. The mother of Tupua and that village are watching. It is our family, however, let us not be too focused on the foundation of our existence, focus on the tool. Let us not yearn for the fish. Thus why, I offer my suggestion, thank you.

I just want to remind our constituency especially our village of Salani, let our *Tama a Aiga* be the Leader to oppose the Government. As Afioga Fuimaono tried, Fuimaono stood to support the Government, the Hon Gafatasi, Fuimaono Lotomau, who was eventually appointed a Minister. Our Leader our *Tama a Aiga* whom we admire emerged to oppose the Government, until Fuimaono Tei stood up to oppose the Government, while *Fuimaono Faasopo* stood to support the Government.

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Now I have also emerged to support the Government, as we are still discussing the roads, brought by the authority and wisdom to the family. Meaning that, it is not uncommon for us to have different opinions. Having different opinions is not something new, in practical terms, but as a result, there is nothing disorderly. Our traditions and values are still sacred, especially in taking care of our *Tama a Aiga*. In case the statement is prolonged, but Falealili does not have much more to say, my constituency, this is the statement by Falealili. Let us maintain the dignity, so that we may have a Government. Those are the images of democracy, prosperous and transparent, the feeling of an individual is in accordance with their own views. It means that it is uncontrollable, no one can dictate your opinion, because it is your own free choice.

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea (Gagaifomauga No.3):** Mr Speaker, a Point of Order and Clarification.

**MR SPEAKER:** I implore the member as I call upon the member of Gagaifomauga No.3.

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** It is believed that this hour has already highlighted the wisdom of the member, Afioga Gagatasi Fuimaono.

But I would just like to add on Mr Speaker, for the protection of the dignity of our Standing Orders. The speech is moving towards addressing the importance of titles that cannot respond to the statements. Fuimaono, I want to ask you about your discernment. The understanding of the relationship between the father and his family, it is scared. The village is showing support as they are fully aware of the reasons for the visit of the *Tama a Aiga*. The coconut tree does not sway on its own, but I voice this in respect to our scared space. Fuimaono from that side, the Fuimaono that has prepared for the role, and the person currently speaking is a Fuimaono. I have much respect, but the dignity of the *Tama a Aiga* should not be discarded. It is a man that we should all take care. This is my respectful point of view, continue to be selective with the wisdom as it is good. But do not let things get in the way of our upbringing and how we treat the *Tama a Aiga*. That is my assistance, the *Tama a Aiga* cannot respond as to why he came over. It is the will of the village.

**MR SPEAKER:** The interruption has been noted, but the Chair would like to offer assistance. The member for Gagaifomauga has risen too quickly. I call on the member.

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**Afioga FUIMAONO TEO SAMUELU TEO:** Thank you. The member has interrupted but I did not say anything wrong. I am making a request to my village and the constituency, on our relations. But I know that there are still some parts that are unclear, but I am sitting with a clear understanding, because I was present during the discussions, and I am also sitting in the village meetings. And that is the advice to be given, as we are all connected by blood and flesh. Our *Tama a Aiga* should be revered, that is why we protect and offer advice, so that they are not affected along the way. Because the *tama* is someone we all admire. That is a request, but it is not in the spirit of....

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** Mr Speaker, I stand with the utmost respect. Do not neglect it but praise it, because it is scared considering this is the House of the country. The sayings of Salani should not be uttered here as there is a place for it. The *Tama a Aiga* is unable to respond on why he visited the village. Those are the thoughts and feelings, Fuimaono, do not voice such declarations as Samoa is listening.

**Afioga FUIMAONO TEO SAMUELU TEO:** I know that if this request is noted, *e mamea le tava'e i ona fulu*. Does the statement mean that you are devoted while I am not willing to protect the *Tama a Aiga*. That is how things are, as for our relationship that is it, because words are vulgar, that is the reason. Unfortunately, it has already been announced on air, making it seem like we are utilizing the *Tama a Aiga* to instigate a protest. With all due respect, thank you.

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** Mr Speaker, I believe that there should be an explanation as the country is listening. Do not mix the dignity of the country and politics. That is not the way, for the words used were not voiced on the way but in the House.

**MR SPEAKER:** The matter is, it seems the statement made is a reminder of the order of the politicians in the past. Such is the sentiment of the Speaker, giving you the opportunity does not mean that you can make your statement straight away, the member is correct, about the progress of the former members of Falealili. As it turns out, there is no difference between that period and this period. That is the meaning of the statement made by the member speaking.

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It is also helpful that you would emerge to give advice and convey your opinion. The *tama* is who we take care of together, that is how I feel, also the Chair does not take lightly the commitment to take care of the *Tama a Aiga*. We all have our salutations and know the dignitaries of our country. I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, I feel that when it comes to these serious matters, the wisdom of those of us in the House must also be extensive.

In my opinion it is so important to give recommendations, for we are not prohibited from expressing our suggestions, unless it is criticism. But the advice that was given by the representative of Sa Fenunuivao is directed to their *Tama a Aiga*. I am Sa Fenunuivao, I am also Sa Fenunuivao. Therefore I fully accept the counsel that is being given. I just want to remind you of being impudent within this House. But the recommendations are correct, we are eager to listen, for it is advice not criticism.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you, everything has been made clear.

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** Mr Speaker, a Point of Clarification...

**MR SPEAKER:** I implore the member.

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** Toleafoa, the family of *Sa Tupua* is also taking care of the *Tama a Aiga*. If we find the lineage, we will find that we are all one in the same. Thus why, this advice is given to the Gafatasi, speak the words of our country about our lands, do not instigate, the *Tama a Aiga* cannot respond as to why he visited the village. Hence why I am benevolent, for people different opinions towards this man. There are some who hold on half-heartedly, and others who hold on tightly and wholeheartedly.

**MR SPEAKER:** I appease the member to sit down.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** There are also people who cling on foolishly. Mr Speaker, it is the reason I take the floor. If it were to be dissected further, I am not only the orator of Tuiatua but I am also Sa Fenunuivao.

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So if Sa Fenunuivao were to speak in this House, it is a must, but with the presence of others who are not in the *aiga* Sa Fenunuivao, that is when I must stand and offer guidance. Because there are many people to talk about these things, but they do not understand.

**MR SPEAKER:** Well done, the Chair believes the same, I appease the member.

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** Mr Speaker, I will rule my heart, even though Samoa is in adherence. Samoa you be the judge on who has relations to this lineage.

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe that we will not scrutinize this matter further, as the Parliament is prohibited from considering it. But it is just a reminder, and as advice for the sentiment of our constituency. Take a stance and look at the bigger picture. Do not be easily deceived by the situations during these times of turmoil.

This is the repercussion of our election. Because of the differences in the opinions that are shown. Therefore, I call upon the member to stand, if there are any more recommendations before you conclude.

**Afioga FUIMAONO TEO SAMUELU TEO:** I know that it is very clear, as the concept has already been laid out. These things have already been transcribed in our Act and recorded in the records of this Assembly. As well as those who stand at the helm to lead and those who are in the opposition. There is nothing invalid with the feelings and the opinions of this member. However, I refuse to scrutinize these things, so it will not be touched upon. You stated that we listen. But it has already been broadcasted on the television, and the radio, while the member for Falealili is still sitting quietly. Why? Because I am waiting and observing patiently, while the proclamations given are unbound. So it is obvious that the world is listening to the words uttered and words that have been conveyed. I will not comprehend it, for the only purpose for evoking this issue. In our village, the people make their own choices, in fact it is not something new, it is the way we have done things since the beginning, as Fuimaono opposes the Government, Fuimaono also stands to support the Government. So it is not something new, hence why I am attempting to clarify this matter, as well as the desire to keep the dignity. Well, the voice of Falealili is reciprocated.

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The situation within our House for the fellow members, thank you very much. These 5 years, we have rubbed shoulders and cheeks as we have become accustomed to our words. Even for my fellow member that interrupted, he is accustomed to it. Why? Well, we may disagree but, in the end, we are brothers. The speeches and politics used in this House are serious, but the moral of Samoa is important, the etiquette of the people, is respect. That is how things are. Well, let us overlook any derogatory behaviour, as we remove any forms of regret, so that we can focus on the prosperity of Samoa. In implementing projects that are beneficial for Samoa, so that its people can live happily. Just a reminder, no, lest it is misunderstood, you still have your rights as they have not been removed, your customary lands are also secure, as it is not taken away nor is it controlled by the Government. In case the sentiments of our constituency is shaken or disoriented. No. But I want to thank you Salesatele, Siuniu, Sapoe, Utulaelae for your acceptance of the Bill as you acknowledge your member, especially my family and all those in our village of Salani. Well, that is the reason for conveying my opinion, it is not new, but the intimacy and the respect between Aiga Sa Fenunuivao still remains.

Well, back to the statement of Falealili, bless this day as we conduct our duties and responsibilities, may God prolong your life Hon Leader of Government appointed from heaven to lead our Government again in the XVII Parliamentary term.

God bless you Mr Speaker, yes, you will not be returning, but the utmost gratitude to you for your leadership as the Chair, for it was not easy administrating your wisdom, as well as managing the decisions of the members of Parliament, but praises for your bravery, praises for your nobility, as it was your leadership which made the work of the Parliament in this House successful.

God bless the work of the Chief Executive Officers, as the Parliament makes the plans while you execute them. This means, the prosperity of the country is in your hands, may the wisdom descend from heaven so that you are all equipped to perform the duties with integrity, even though positions are important it is honesty in conducting the duties appointed for the prosperity of Samoa that comes first.

This is a respectful message to offer condolences, Vaelaa the wife of Vaafusuaga, especially your beloved daughter.

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I express my gratitude. There will be more things to say later on, but may God's spirit comfort the constituency, may God's spirit comfort Faleaseela, especially the village of the late member, a warrior of Parliament has been taken away. I will miss you brother; may you find your place in heaven. Give adoration to our parents that are on that side of the veil, wait and see who in Parliament will follow suit, or a Chief Executive Officer or whoever, for that is where we all end up.

Well, may we have great success in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Members of Parliament expressed their contentment with applause at the conclusion of the speech by the member for Falealili East.*

**MR SPEAKER:** I applaud the speech. The speech by the respectable member does not need to be repeated. Parliament has heard, and the observational support of the constituency has also heard.

Well, we do not need to exaggerate it because a good fine mat should not be decorated but thank you for your wisdom. We are eager to listen because the speech by the country is complete. Thank you very much. You should have taken a course on the Samoan language. Needless to say, blessed is your community that has a member who has been blessed by God in the language.

Well, there is a belief that opportunity is now available for another member. I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, I notice that the majority of the House is satisfied with the speech and suggestion made, and I have also noticed that it is now time for our usual recess. But why not give the opportunity for the next member to prepare, as we have to accept the courtesy of your Ministry.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well. It shall be done as such. Leala, do you want to.... Or do you want to go for recess?

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi (Faleata West):** Thank you Mr Speaker, but since a motion has been moved by the Hon Prime Minister.



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**MR SPEAKER:** Well, thank you. Well, since the motion has been moved for us to rest and to prepare properly for when we return from our recess.

The Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly will be set aside for its usual recess.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were suspended for its usual recess at 10:33am and resumed at 11:28 am.*

*Debate resumed on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021.*

**MR SPEAKER:** I announce the resumption of Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly.

Thank you for your patience and your hard work as we have regained additional strength to continue our Assembly.

I recall that the member for Salega East had informed me that he would like an opportunity when we return from our recess. Therefore, I respectfully invite the member for Salega East to speak on our Supplementary Budget (No1). Good luck with your speech.

**Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI (Salega East):** Thank you. I believe Mr Speaker, as well as the sanctity and dignity of our Parliament have been satisfied with the breakfast served. Thank you. Thank you also to the office of the Legislative Assembly for your continued service over the past 5 years to our Parliament.

Well, I believe praises has already been voiced by the Chair, to showcase the kindness and love of our Almighty and for guiding our Parliament, as it has led my life and our existence on this beautiful, peaceful, calm morning as we assemble on the shores of life because the ocean at Asuisui is endless with his kindness. And so we say, O God, the glory returns to Thee. Even though one of the pillars of Parliament has been taken away, however, it is God's will.

I also want to take this opportunity as a spokesperson to humbly voice the deepest condolences of the constituency of Salega East for the sacred call of God to the fellow member, not only for this member, but also condolences to one of the elder members who was a representative before I became a member, he also served our country as an honourable member of Parliament.

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Well, may the consolation of God be with the wives and children and the families of both members as well as the constituency. In fact, Mr Speaker, ideas have started to fade away, because a dark cloud has overshadowed our Parliament by God's holy call, but I believe that God will not forsake us. So we thought, we will attempt to make a brief speech, because these are times for thanksgiving.

But I would first like to offer salutations to the devotion of our beloved country, the holiness and dignity of Samoa in all its aspects, in all its highest honours, its dignities traditional, political and religious forms, which will not be discussed any further by Salega, because the sacredness and dignity are ordained, and will remain forever. Congratulations to our country on the voyage, thank you for your devotion, and especially for your prayers that have made the work of your Parliament successful in this Parliamentary Term.

A special thank you to the sanctity of the different Denominations in our country, for your sacrifices day by day so that our country may be blessed. Thank you very much.

I also want to acknowledge the presence of the Chief Justice and the Judiciary for their part in the pursuit of justice and in attempting to guide our people in all legal ways.

I also offer greetings to Mr Speaker as well as the Deputy Speaker, the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and the various divisions of our Ministry and the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

Tolefoa, I cannot say your name lightly, I know that you are working hard, and all your efforts cannot be counted but your services as the Chair is known by our country. Thank you very much. Praises for your perseverance in hosting the Assembly of our country, your patience is also praiseworthy. May the love of God prolong your life. In fact Mr Speaker, you are gifted by God in the spiritual sense.

It is no secret that we also have brothers who have retired victorious, but it would also be good if you were to establish your own Congregation and then the Tofa Faasoo, Hon Tuitama, and the Hon Aeau, can attend and they can both be your deacons, you can just preach like you are a reverend, while these members can actively give you *peleti* and *alofa's*, this will not make a difference for that is one way for you to use your services. Well, I also believe that you, Mr Speaker will not forget this humble servant. Most of the time you scold and say that I am defiant and such, well; I ask that you forgive any thoughtless acts and attitude. Also with whatever differences we had in thoughts and opinion, let it be disregarded, and let us remember the forgiveness that Jesus made on the cross for the other prisoner who was about to die but then he cried out to Jesus, "Have mercy, for I repent.

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Remember me when you come into your Kingdom. And Jesus replied, “Very well, I forgive you, and today is the day we will meet again in my Father’s paradise, but for now, continue to hang from your cross so that you can atone for your sins.

I also offer greetings to the Hon Leader of the Country, the Hon Prime Minister, my dear friend, the sanctity of the Cabinet, the Chief Executive officers of the Ministries and Corporations of our Government, as well as the various royalties, the younger generation who serve our Government. Congratulations and thank you, praises for the hard work, as blessings follow the person who serves faithfully. Hon Prime Minister, well, I would also like to apologize for any inconvenience caused, but it is in the spirit of eagerness, advice, encouragement and assistance to your work, because we believe that it is not an easy task. Our Government is one that gives and take, especially in the pursuit for the prosperity of our country.

Well, I would like to take this wonderful opportunity to acknowledge my constituency of Salega East and the respects of *Afioga i le Tuiaana Tuiatua, le paia i Aiga na mua i malae o Samoa. Le afio o le Matua, Maopu ma le Alaalamaota, tausivaatele e le mamalu ia Sautuvai, Sautugia, Taupoloalii faapea foi le mamalu i le Alataua*. Thank you for your support and prayers to Salega East as well as Salega West and the whole of Salega, as our constituencies are related.

I want to express gratitude for the incompetent and humble service done by Olo, I apologize, for it is the best I can do as a humble servant. There was always the thought that we would meet when our Parliament is dissolved, however, I believe that you would not mind the mistake of this member for I have taken action before asking permission. Why? It is based on the Bills which were made by these humoristic members. Well, there will come a day when we meet, sometime in the future.

Thank you also to my family here in Samoa and abroad and all of our countrymen who are supporting my efforts in the performance of my duties within our Parliament.

Well, Mr Speaker, as I have said before, this is a morning for thanksgiving, as we have now polished our tools because our work is ending, our responsibilities have concluded, there should be nothing out of order. For our election, well, there is a modest thought, that our work should be implemented considerately, even though we compete we are a family, because we have all fallen to the birthplace of Moeleoi, pardon my language in the observation of the country. That is why I am talking as a senior member this morning.

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I now come to the budget, and I have been watching Cabinet Ministers and none of them is taking notes when we speak, and I guess it is the fact that we are in the last days of the term. I do see Loau writing stuff down. I will not be making any requests but will apologise to Cabinet since most of the time we tend to argue because of our desire to find meaningful solutions for the sake of our people through our exchange of views.

Mr Speaker as I have said, the speech of Salega will be brief. Other than my reminding you of my observations since the start of the term which consists of certain parts of legislations which I cannot ignore, and I must share.

Hon Prime Minister I want to put this to you on behalf of my constituency and that is the state of a legislation that has been passed into law where the Chief Executive Officer of the Office of the Prime Minister can verify any law enacted by Parliament after 7 days if it has not been verified by Le Ao o Le Malo.

To me personally it is not appropriate, and I ask that you consider my stance whether there is any merit to it. If I am wrong, I will take it back, but I say this because we are talking about laws enacted by Parliament to be verified by the Chief Executive Officer of the Prime Minister's Office which does evoke questions along this line.

The other matter Mr Speaker, I recommend the Minister of the Electoral Office to review the legislation to block any Government of the day from using any developments or their status to campaign during elections. I believe that is not covered in the law. It is something that must be looked at to ensure the smooth operation of our political affairs for today and the future as we will leave here eventually. Let us adopt the style of the Asians where they cultivate the land now, not for them, but for sons and daughters to come. As I have mentioned earlier Salega will not prolong its speech since I realise that the FAST Party are currently making strides canvassing support which I am part of and I will be speaking again about it at my constituency.

But for now, I will say, may God bless you Mr Speaker and I extend the same to the Prime Minister and Cabinet and distinguished members. Let us not show hostility concerning the election. To the member for Faleula, do not cry. If there are strategies and modern ways which you know that will be an advantage for me to win, well the master on such matters is present, ask the Chair as I have learnt a lot from him. Crying is not allowed, also kneeling. Thank you for the opportunity. I hope we have a constructive meeting and blessings upon the country.

*Members showed their appreciation with applause at the conclusion of the speech by the member for Salega East.*

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**MR SPEAKER:** My commendation. I call upon the Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, I congratulate the member. But I raise a point of order and I did not want to interrupt but I must correct this as I feel that it does affect the Constitution of Samoa. We did not draft the Constitution; it was done by 160 plus leaders of the country hailing from the constituencies and in the presence of the four *tama-aiga*. One of the *Tama a Aiga* was Afioga Fiame and when the matter of eligibility was discussed to seek Le Ao o Le Malo, he removed himself with respect to other three titles of *Tama a Aiga*. Thus, Fiame remained and he stated that it was the reason he came to Parliament under the title Fiame and not Mataafa since the latter was a *Tama a Aiga* yet taking up the title Fiame would allow him the capacity to serve as a servant of the people. This allowed him to become part of the selection of an eligible candidate for Ao o Le Malo in future. This was the group that laid out the grounds for the eligibility of the candidate for Le Ao O Le Malo and members of Parliament which is matai title holder that is officially recognised and registered.

Mr Speaker when the legislation was deliberated in Parliament, to be passed by the Supreme body which is the Legislative Assembly, consisting of all the representatives of Samoa, it passed a legislation which was rejected by one person Le Ao O Le Malo. Yet consideration by constituency representatives was quite extensive. If Le Ao O Le Malo does not verify it, opportunity is given within 7 days for consideration. In those 7 days the Cabinet can reconsider whether the law should be suspended or not. And that is also the opportunity to readjust the decision of Le Ao o le Malo on why it was not signed, in the 7 days. Once this period is concluded the Secretary to Cabinet is summoned to publicise it to the country that the law is official. In English terms, “the Law is deemed to come into effect”. Le Ao O Le Malo goes along with it despite him not signing it.

Mr Speaker this was laid out by our forefathers it is not new. So I am correcting the statement to be false.

The second point you made was that Government projects should be stopped as it is a form of campaign. What are these projects? So, are you saying that we should no longer implement these developments? The Government cannot sit back and do nothing. We have already announced that until we do publicise our manifesto of our party, and it is decided by the elections, until the time the Government is finalized and appointed, the work will still be ongoing, and it cannot be stopped. In particular, some of these projects are financed from abroad. This means once it is suspended, the grants will be cancelled.

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The member is saying to halt the projects but what about the people waiting for it? For their water supply, other necessities and hospitals? So, you want these projects to be stopped until the elections are over. What if people die?

Mr Speaker, it cannot be done. The suggestions you gave are inappropriate and wrong. Mr Speaker that is the correction. The House and the people who are listening understand it well. It does not mean that our election process will stop, what the country needs must be implemented. You cannot say, wait until after the elections before treatment can be administered. Claiming that treatment would be considered as lobbying.

Mr Speaker this is the kind of situation in which you apply vision from God which we must be appropriately apply. With many people they seem to be missing common sense which is justice for integrity.

Mr Speaker, we seem to be misguided with outside influence by overseas concepts. People have this notion not to do this and that in case we may be criticised. Fear. As one President put it, this is a disease that makes us sick of being easily afraid. Disregarding the words from the bible, “What you know must be done, should be done at once” As if you do not take action, it is a sin before God.

Mr Speaker that is a correction.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you.

**Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI:** Mr Speaker, I thank the Prime Minister for once again claiming that I am wrong yet I am merely sharing an opinion.

The Prime Minister claiming that it is an element of the Constitution, what I am referring to is not so. I am talking about the legislation that substituted a discretion contained in the Constitution which now allows for the Chief Executive Officer to sign, this change was done yesterday. Or was it 2016, this is what you call lobbying.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, a point of order...

**Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI:** The Prime Minister has clearly stated...

**MR SPEAKER:** I ask you to be patient.

**Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI:** Samoa that is our campaign.

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**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi:** A point of order.

**Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI:** Political Party agenda differs from that of Government.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi:** A point of order...

**MR SPEAKER:** I beg tolerance of the member for Salega but the point you are seeking clarification of shall be explained.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi:** I have already talked about it, and this is what causes the problem. You did not seek to read the deliberations of the Constitutional Convention which got this group totally misled. It also misled the lawyers and some of the Judges. Because they did not read the directions from our forefathers. It is all within the contents of the dialogue of the Constitutional Convention. It was not something that was done yesterday.

Mr Speaker that is the reason why I abruptly stated their mistake because this member does not read our law to gain an understanding, or perhaps try to make some sense of it.

**MR SPEAKER:** I do not object the member for Salega East discussing this particular matter. The Government is not interrupting at all. Perhaps this was noticed not only by the Parliament but also by the public.

Now the speech has concluded, the Government has stood up to explain and explain the issues raised by the member. Although there were a few things raised, they are serious in terms of the Governments view, because it needs to be corrected, because such small things can ruin the significance of it. What this means is, it can mislead the opinions of the country, with the belief that it has changed, that there has been change by the Government in the implementation of the laws and duties.

As far as I am concerned, when I entered Parliament in 1991 this has been Government policies. Projects will continue with the Government attending the opening of developments throughout the country without any delay and everything goes to plan as the Prime Minister had clarified.

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All these projects and developments are financed through our own pocket and of course with others being assisted by entities like the World Bank and our other partners abroad. They must know that a project has been officially open. Therefore it cannot be changed by one opinion.

This procedure was not something that started yesterday or during this Parliamentary term. Or beyond that, no, but it is something that eventuated since HRPP came into power. Samoa, we are here to develop the country. When projects are completed, they must be officially opened for the understanding of the public. This is not only in the districts, but also all over the country projects have been completed everywhere.

The changes to the Constitution well that is my take on it after reading it, and I wish you would have taken this role of Speaker. I say this because the Speaker's role is to peruse the whole context of the dialogue of our leaders at the time when discussing the Constitution of Samoa and the efforts of becoming independent. I can vouch that it is how it was, and it remains that way today.

Therefore, I apologise to the member, it is difficult to give another opportunity like this to bring forth another opinion. The Government's answer is the response to explain and finalize a matter. Let us wait until your time when you become the Government, and this is an opinion that pertains to me alone. But let us depend on God with our upcoming elections. If somehow your Party will succeed Government you will understand the genuine and integrity of our endeavours as the Prime Minister has stated. I am saying this as I too understand the situation.

So I beg tolerance of the member but as far as your remarks well my commendations. They are constructive and everyone admires it as compared to the mountain of Matautia at the particular area of Salafai guarded by the Alataua. So I will end it there as the matter is now understood. This is the opportunity for another member to speak for our work to proceed.

This is the opportune time for members as people have finished work and are heading home and everyone are tuning in to proceedings, they are taking an interest particularly now so as to make up their minds with where to go in terms of their support. After all some voters base their decision on the performance of members here. That is another reason another member did not make it back after pleading with his constituency to allow him another chance as he was yet to familiarise himself the work here.

**Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI:** That is the reason I am taking the floor once again.



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**MR SPEAKER:** Another old man stated that a member does not need to familiarise himself. Once becoming a member, he is well versed with things. Anytime is a good time.

**Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI:** That is the reason I am taking the floor, I am seeking an opportunity.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, it is quite alright as we have just started our session. The fact is it is very difficult to connect speeches since the statements made already are out of this world.

So being the Leader of the House I feel that I must be cooperative since there is the possibility that we would continue right into the night until dawn, but in view of the time we are approaching 12 noon the lunch hour. However, the discretion is purely on you Mr Speaker and I feel that it is important, and the Assembly need to take things easy. Since this is our last sitting and communities are eager to hear their representatives. Such is the nature of our work that we must take it easy.

It is up to you Mr Speaker, but the hour is approaching and we must do things according to our strength. I say this since I am much more youthful than that group of the Assembly.

**Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI:** Mr Speaker, I second the motion. This is good to prolong our debate.

**Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI:** Mr Speaker I feel the same. It is best to have two speakers per day.

**MR SPEAKER:** Well, Leala is rising to speak. Oh I do want to allow you to speak but, Olo it is not fair that you get two opportunities whilst others get one. Some members are wanting to speak. I guess the situation depicts the gentleman that had two relationships but only has one wife. That is not good, I call upon the Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Why not give a third chance because this means this is a third time for anything.

**MR SPEAKER:** The situation with Olo is such that he has a spouse but does anything he pleases. My apologies but ...

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**Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI:** Mr Speaker, please retract your statement. That was also what you two elders did.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. Utilising our time since the Clerk is keeping record of the time we take up.

**Afioga Hon Loau Sola Keneti Sio:** Mr Speaker I respectfully take the floor since the member mentioned my name when he made his statement. I did make a note of it, and I guess this is the appropriate time. The member is correct, and this is important to me being the Minister of Education. The children are listening to misleading speeches and factual statements. They are making up their minds and it is important for it evokes questions.

I understand the type of question which gives one the option of responding be it true or false. The students are listening and wondering when the Constitution was drafted? But who was involved in it? Now we understand that the member's speech is false. So that is the vitality of making records for the Ministry of Education.

**Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI:** Mr Speaker the Minister is right. You will remember with exams there is a multiple question section. That was the only area Loau passed as he was making guesses.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well, but we do not really know which one of you two is the liar. It would be great for a member to take the floor and take us through to our usual adjournment time.

If we adjourn now, it would not be a whole day. You do not know what I have in mind. Someone should just take the floor to voice remarks then it will be noted a day.

I see the Afioga Toomata from the constituency of Salega West is upstanding, you may proceed.

**Afioga TOOMATA AKI TUIPEA (Salega West):** Thank you for the opportunity Mr Speaker. I was waiting since it is our report now tabled before Parliament. Nevertheless, thank you for the opportunity given.

First, I greet you Mr Speaker, I applaud your leadership in the conducting of our business from the start of the term to these final days. We have witnessed the calmness in you. We also observed your discretion as a senior statesman having faith in God, for the Parliament of Samoa to be composed and not be in disorder. Despite the challenges that surfaced, thank you for being patient, and allowing respectable members the opportunity to speak.

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The traditional salutations of the country shall remain, and I will not elaborate on them. After all they will not change or be altered by what one may say. I rise though on behalf of my constituency of Salega No.1 to contribute to the Supplementary Appropriations Bill No.2 2020/2021. First of all I express my appreciations to the Leader of the Government, the Prime Minister especially Cabinet as well as Associate Ministers.

I must also congratulate the Chief Executive Officers of Ministries for their part in the compilation of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill. In my view there seems to be a lot of funds saved, due to the suspension of travels. Not only that there is really not a great deal of additional funds. Priority is given to some of the developments that should get the go ahead to ensure that services to the public continues effectively. I applaud your perseverance considering the number of challenges facing the Government. There are also many statements and announcements, which may disturb the peace, however, the tide is calm. You have remained focused in the Lord which provides peace and stability to our country. My view of the Budget is there is no change with the deficit level as indicated in the Main Appropriations. Although there is this addition, it remains as it was in the beginning.

This is why I give thanks for this distribution; these funds are for the continuation of the work. I also convey my appreciations for the large amount of grants, which assists with the developments of our country. These grants are not given freely as we see from year to year. The reason why we are fortunate to receive these grants from overseas countries, is based on their belief in the leadership of the Government.

I would like to express our gratitude, because of the kindness of our partners from abroad, to assist with the capital earned in our country, to assist with distribution to provide services to our people. We are very grateful for the many projects this year, which has also benefitted our constituency. For the some of the works, in the construction of access roads, thank you. In addition we now have a big water tank in our village of *Samata i uta*. It stores water to be distributed to the constituency. We have also received assistance from the Government of Japan, to renovate our Primary school in Fagafau and *Samata i tai*, because of the agreement and partnership of the Samoan Government and the Government of Japan.

I believe, if it were not for the Japanese belief in the Government, it would not be possible to receive these aids. How many years has it been since they have given assistance? This is not limited to schools, but with many large-scale projects that are being implemented in our country because of the same assistance given by these big countries. Thank you.

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I thank the Leader of Government and Cabinet, through the Minister of Education, for the help received for the improvement of the playground of our Primary School in *Samata i tai* and Fagafau. We were supposed to open our school building at the end of last year, but with the arrival of this \$50,000 grant it was fitting. Perhaps if you look at what was achieved it should not be \$50,000 but probably \$150,000, however we are grateful for this assistance.

Because our school does not have a sports field. As you are aware this part of Savaii, the significant drop, and top hills. More funds is required to improve school buildings foundations and accomodations as our district location is different, it is made up of hills and valleys. Thankfully, we are grateful to God that our village is safe and we do not have to worry about tsunami. We also are not desperate for seawall areas like other districts. Perhaps they will be useful too.

I further appreciate all the good things implemented by the State for our country. Not only the developments of my district, there is also the progress of road works for the traveling public. The Budget is now before us to plan in order to enhance our roads towards the airport area. This project is not cheap. It is not easy to release funds from the banks and countries that are offering us financial assistance. The reason for acquiring these grants is due to trust upon this administration and this 5 year term.

I speak on behalf of my constituency, Salega No.1 to voice our great appreciation and gratitude to the Minister, Cabinet and the distinguished Government.

I further take this chance, to convey acknowledgement to my dear constituency of Salega No.1 from Fagafau, *o le Paia lava lea i Alo o Lilomaiava, lau Afioga Seve ma Tilimafaga, Afioga Tuimaugapo ma le aiga Sa Tuimaugapo, ae polapuipei e Sa Soa ma Samai.*

*Faiaai, lau Afioga Fualau ma lo outou aiga, afio lau Afioga Tuilafono ma Faavaoga. Afifio Sua, o Gisa ma le Aloalii ia Fepuleai, lau Fetalaiiga Tuisalega, e te teu vaatele i lo tatou itumalo.*

*Fogatuli, lau Afioga Afualo ma le Toafa ou Alo, lau Fetalaiiga Faimanu, o le fofoga o Usoalii.*

I conclude a statement on my constituency, my dear villages of Samata i tai and Samata i uta. *Afio lau Afioga i le Sao Toomata, le Toafa o Alii, Mase ma Togagae, Soi ma Alo. O le matua o Tuipea ma lau Faleono, faapea le paia ia Saleutogi na lima matua i faleupolu o tofiga le toatolu o alii, Samata i uta, lau Afioga Faasavalu, Afio lau Afioga Pupuva, lau Afioga i le Togagae. O le matua o Selu, ma lau Faleono, lau fetalaiiga Tagotau o le pitofanua. Lau fetalaiiga Fau o le tagata o le vavau ma le paia ia Saleutogipoe.*

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Thank you for your respect. Which has allowed me to speak before the Meeting of Samoa in this 5 year term. Thank you for your prayers and support. If I have achieved anything for this 5 year period, it is what I could do. God still has abundant days.

I conclude a statement, by praising the members of the clergy anywhere in the district. You have left your families because of your thoughts upon God and His Gospel.

Thank you for your prayers, support and farsightedness which has safeguarded the district. Harmony is maintained within the village, families, village council, men, women and children. To the villages of our district, thank you very much for your tremendous services.

Thank you for your great recognition of our State's programs conducted by each Ministry. Not only with the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development, Ministry of Health, Samoa Water Authority, and everything like that, there is huge respect from you with recognition and joy. Whatever programs put forth, it is not rejected, as this is the future of the country. Whatever programs prepared by the Government through the Ministries, it is not for the State but for the benefit of the country, the individuals. Even with the ongoing trainings, it is not easy. But I wish to thank my constituency for striving for success and your trust in the State which is reason we find prosperity, the HRPP.

Thank you for believing in this administration especially me. We do have lapsed works, which must be resumed, but because of the strength we had at that time from God to implement the works. I do not have to read them out as you have already seen it, and I wish to say, that whoever returns, to continue the good works for the general benefit of the district. Father God, forgive the sins of this servant. *Aua e poto lava le tautai ae sese lana atu i ama.*

Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, there are a few requests of this constituency. Recently in this month I had visited Savaii. My vehicle was blocked in Fogatuli, there was strong riverflow at the concrete area blocking the passing vehicles. I have seen the huge change in weather there and I appeal this pressing issue if now now then sometime in the future.

Hon Minister of Works, Papaliitele I hope you will come back again, I too will return. Then you will continue this improvement as the climate change huge impacts has affected this part of Fogatuli. Nonetheless, I remember lately, I submitted a letter to the Water Authority as there are a few nearby settlements to this water pumping area in Fogatuli. Further inland there is roughly six households there that do not have water supply. I did query the Head of the Water Authority and she replied, because the water pump is situated in the innermost area and water is connected to majority of the village.

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With respect I plea that we too are human beings who wants titles. If there is a way to set up a gas station inland, a pump-to-pump water for the people, we will accept it with respect. We do not have to make known the water of life. It is worthless if there is no water. For that matter, I appeal with great respect. To the Hon Leader of the Government, have consideration of these people, lest the State becomes discriminatory, there are households that needs water.

I conclude a statement with my constituency, thank you for your support. We rely on God in the selection of our representative for the next 5-year term. Whoever will vie against me, well take it easy, go easy on this lest you get breathless.

You do see me visiting our constituency more often. You do observe me well. I do not just sit and come to you during the time of elections. That being said, do your x, because even if I do not make it, you will still see me. That said, thank you.

Mr Speaker, I will miss you if I come back the next 5 years. I will not forget you advises, it is a great lesson for the rest of us who are new in here, to bear patience and perseverance. You do know how to maintain dignity perhaps if you are sitting in a village council. It is you where foresight, peace and harmony of the village is relied upon. Bless us in the goodness and love of God. Soifua.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Paramount Chief. The constituency has heard your speech and some of the things laid out. I see that the Minister and the Prime Minister are noting them down. Is it Fogatuli? Do note them down properly Papalii for the old men to work on it. If the constituency is listening in, the recommendation is correct, that is how we are, friends everyday and relatives in bad times. That is the nature of life we are living. Leave it to the constituency for them to choose with God a good member that loves the constituency and meets the demands of the constituency for its developments and for its future generations.

This is the chance for another speaker whilst we still have time, perhaps we can have two more speakers.

Who is it in the reddish light in that corner?

**Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo:** Mr Speaker, isn't this a good chance for the Minister of Education to respond as the constituency is listening in to the proposed appropriations for the international Airport that is now returned. Do speak directly about the availability of funding for my constituency whether it is still there, for us to seek a land to implement it. With respect.

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**MR SPEAKER:** Because of your own will which I too am recording. Do not forget that that is also part of my job, to take note of your remarks. And all the members will see the importance of the Minister of Education's job, and you will give a paper to remind the Minister about the matters raised by the member. There is money, the only thing is the land. I call upon the Hon Minister of Education.

**Afioga Hon Loau Sola Keneti Sio (Minister for Education, Sports and Culture):** Even though I was absent from our Meeting in the morning due to unforeseen circumstances. At least they were all noted down by my secretaries Faaolesa and Afamasaga the matters raised by my other secretary Sili next to me. I have whispered to him, he has told me, the money allocated for the international airport. The matter discussed by the member of Falealili is vital. But there are funds available, however there is the need for a land to build this project. I have already discussed with the member, after a land is found, I will contact him, and he will consult with the Ministry to progress with this development. That is the intention while I have the chance.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, lest you think... Sit down... this is the response to the Minister. The truth is, before the completion of our Budget, it will be finished in June. Whilst we are in January now and therefore, we have 5 more months left for us to keep looking. If we cannot find it there, then hand it over to Piu, if we are unable to find a location. If by the end of June and there is none during this Administration.

Mr Speaker, for the sake of the House, the development of lands, the development of players is another priority of our State. Therefore, it is necessary for the district to keep doing its research, where our sportsfield will be located. As I too used to approve with these many sportsfields. The reason for saying this is because I was the one who had launched the international airport on the other side. Perhaps it is a... because the constituency of Falealili is huge. That was when the district was only one whilst now it is two, and therefore it is additional sportsfield for this district.

That is the situation with our current and ongoing programs, in order to push our children to go and play in the fields. What for? Because not all of them will pursue academic studies in the profession level of becoming a doctor or an engineer. There are those that are talented in sports, and I have said this far too often because we are aware. A girl or a boy can earn millions in a contract in a year.

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Because even a lawyer or a doctor will pass on without earning herself or himself \$2million. That is the situation with the world today, there is a significant revenue earnings from the education of children. I have discussed one time with regards to the sports of cricket, we had begun with 80 below, as international crickets are divided into 2 categories. In relation to a total of 11 upwards such as New Zealand and Australia and players of 100. The 100 is called associate membership, we had begun with that during the setting up a sports ground in Tuanaimato. There was digging up of the huge sports ground with a total of 5 sports fields there, with the intention of the State at that time, to revive the sports of cricket. Why? This was the only sport in Samoa that was international. Rugby league had just come around, but cricket sports was the normal game of the past.

Our village when it comes to cricket, fix works is no longer done, even the senior members would come and play including the 70 years olds. That was the sports of Samoa and taking the Samoan cricket overseas through word of mouth, the bat is almost 4 feet long, whereby the Samoan cricket was introduced to the PNGs and other countries to play it, they now play it better than us. Now that local cricket is being revived and this game is properly being done and we are currently ranked 11 internationally under the second category.

This means, it will not be long now perhaps in another 3 years, we will reach the highest rank, there is plentiful money and talent here however the most unbelievable arose, as aware with regards to our Pacific Games in the previous year, our women managed to earn gold medal, whilst our men achieved the bronze medal.

It is now reflected here, our women are now undertaking excellence for our cricket game, which is also the attempt of our men, whilst the standard for our cricket sports is now very high.

These 5 sportsfields, Samoa is now the only country that locates 5 international sportsfields on roughly 5acre land in Tuanaimato. And we are the only country that can host international games since we have all the playfields whilst other countries have playfields that are distantly scattered, one field is situated in Apia and another one is in Asau, the distance. This is reason why the other countries find it easier to carry out international sports here in the country.

If you observe my speech, there is great encouragement from me. Such is when I become the Chairperson, I will father the cricket, rugby, golf, boxing, soccer, swimming and archery games. The reason for stating this is for our children to push them in the field of sports. That is also why I have longevity, because I always walk to gain my strength.



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The reason why I am affected to push for sports development within Samoa is because of our children so that when they fail from the lawyer profession, there is always sports to develop and achieve. Samoa is also part of the Rugby Union, and the World Rugby Management Committee. We have tried and have been persistent and now Samoa has become a part of the soccer and cricket association internationally.

The meaning of this is I have already mentioned some of the vital areas and the need to take importance of sports in the country. As such, do not worry about your sports ground, as priority is given to it. If land is found the Minister will be informed about it. Even with our village of Falevao, I have longed said it, search for a land to establish our sports ground, and up to this day, there is still the planting of taro shoots here and there without thinking through these things. That said after our remarks perhaps we will have a land in our next meeting for this sports field. There are also the fields of Falefa. This is the intention of the State, for all districts to get a sports field or even all the villages.

The main essence is to earn more money to set up these fields all around the country. Who will these be for? Of children are the precious offspring of parents. It will be for the children who are the future of Samoa, and leaders of the future.

Mr Speaker that is the encouragement to you from the Minister, lest you think it is a political response, no it is not. There are the remaining months to fix that job. There is also, well God's days are plentiful. Bless this Sitting.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well. Let... it has been....

**Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo:** Mr Speaker...

**MR SPEAKER:** The State has responded. You see your intelligence which Parliament is discussing, now that you are granted two chances. The Prime Minister has clarified your thought. Is there an addition to your second chance?

**Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo:** Just a word of gratitude to the Leader of the Government and the Minister, the constituency has heard you. The only thing lest the sports field of Falevao is implemented first than Falealili. Falevao is mainly good with crabs and tuna fish so there is no need for a playfield there. I also remind the Opposition Leader who is the Chairperson for many Associations to take heed of the Faggots Association as well lest he forgets.

**Afioga Alaiasa Muagututia Moefaaouo Malagaitutogiaia Sepulona Moananu (Anoamaa East):** Mr Speaker...

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**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the.... pardon the member of Falefa. Lest priority of the State will put the blame on...Why not...If the sportsfield is a delay, start off with a volley field. Yes.

I call upon Afioga Moananu, Susuga Lufilufi.

**Afioga Alaiasa Muagututia Moefaaouo Malagaitutogiai Sepulona Moananu:** The distinguished member or the Minister has spoken that the Secretary is taking notes of the members' speeches.

This is the main reason why I did not record the speech of this member, because not only is there no land, but there is also no talent in Falealili. The only member of Falealili that took rugby as a career was the guy who kicked the ball without canvas at the Apia Park. And when it came time for the New Zealand tour, he had shoes on, and when the ball was kicked it rolled over as he was not used to wearing shoes. That being said, leave the playfields of Falealili as it is a waste of...but implement the grounds of Falevao as there are men in Falevao who can represent the country in the sports competition. Bless our Sitting.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well.

**Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo:** Point of order, that boy never lived in Falealili, he used to live with a Falealili family.

**MR SPEAKER:** Well is there anything else...

**Afioga Faumuina Asi Pauli Wayne Fong (Urban West):** Mr Speaker, while I have the chance as I did mention it in my speech. I just want to question the Hon Minister and the Hon Prime Minister, why the school building for Vaigaga was not implemented for the kids. We did receive funding from the World Bank, which has been removed, and now we are discussing rugby fields while the school is still waiting for a new building as already approved. That is the only question. With respect thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Hon Minister, do not respond to this matter until I am finished.

**Afioga Hon Loau Sola Keneti Sio:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I observe that the Hon Prime Minister has already given her clarification in relation to the member of Falealili. That is the intention.

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As for the fields, it is still in progress, it is true, there is also the request of Falevao, but there is also the search for a good land suitable for this sports field. It is also good that we are now discussing sports, it is good for me to give a talk on it as it was raised by a member yesterday, he asked why our Sevens Team is a problem, and it seems that I am being blamed for it.

Regardless, the member is correct, our team is also confused at this time given the expressions of the team. Even though, when I came the other day, they were having trainings just recently, then I asked the teacher, why is it that our team not doing so good? Well it is negotiable and... the response of the teacher said, well we have done all the methods and skills in our trainings. Then I said to him, comes tomorrow, when the boys arrive then train them by turning their heads below and feet above. Yes. That is one way, because what is happening now, the hands and feet of the team is not strong enough.

When the Chairperson who is also the Hon Prime Minister came on board, there was a different scene at the training squad as the feet were up in the air whilst the hands were down, the arms were used to walk on. I had a recent talk with the coach, and he said to me, Loau the kids are earning a higher strength now. Why? They said there were tired of walking with their hands and will no longer use their feet, and their attitude will change. Yes. That is where... Perhaps the sports we will have, it is good to have the question of the member for us to make a huge difference for our team.

The school building which Faumuina is speaking about, the Ministry already has plans layout, but not to worry, we will fix your school building, it will be done before the end of this Term. With due respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well. It is good that there is...note that we now have the response from the Urban Seat West and Falealili East. Do remember the advice of the Hon Minister on this matter, despite the ineligibility, everything will go well soon, with training it will be good soon. Since we are nearing our finished time, there is thought, despite the exchanges we make but at the end of the day we must endure the will of our Heavenly Father. Let us bear forgiveness. That said, do not be angry when we disperse from here, let all our discussions remain in here and let us find the heart of forgiveness. Such is the support of our Government Heads and the country. On that note, the member of the Urban Seat West Hon Faumuina will wrap us up with a prayer.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly adjourned at 12:50pm until  
Thursday, 21 January at 9:00am.*