

1. RECOMMENDATION:

The Finance and Expenditure Committee recommends that the Assembly takes note of its Report.

2. RESOLUTION:

At the conclusion of its consideration the Committee resolved to recommend the Assembly that the Public Finance Management Amendment Bill 2014 progresses with the proposed correction.

3. PREAMBLE

The Finance & Expenditure is constituted pursuant to provision of Standing Orders 170.

Members

Appointed

Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE Niko Lee Hang -	Chairperson	30/5/2011
Afioga TAFUA Maluelue Tafua -	Vice Chairperson	30/5/2011
Afioga Hon PALUSALUE Faapo II -	Member	30/5/2011
Tofa LEALAILEPULE Rimoni Aiafi -	Member	30/5/2011
Afioga TAEFU Lemi -	Member	30/5/2011
Afioga AFUALO Wood Uti Salele -	Member	30/5/2011
Afioga TIALAVEA Fea Tionisio Seigafolava-	Member	30/5/2011
Afioga Hon FAUMUINA Tiatia Liuga -	Member	18/8/2014

4. STANDING ORDER 170:

In accordance with the provisions of Standing Orders 170, it shall be the duty of the Committee to:-

- (a) **Consider any bill, petition or other matter referred by the Assembly pursuant to these Standing Orders; and any Estimates or review of ministerial and departmental performance;**

- (b) **Allocate to any Select Committee the examination of any Estimates and of any review of departmental performance;**
- (c) **Examine the policy, administration and expenditure of insurance, superannuation, national provident fund, taxation, auditing of public accounts and Ministerial financial statements;**
- (d) **Have responsibility for the overall review of financial management in all government ministries and public bodies;**
- (e) **Examine and report on the public account.**

5. BILL CONSIDERED:

Public Finance Management Amendment Bill 2014

The Committee considered the Public Finance Management Amendment Bill 2014 in accordance with order of the Assembly on the 22nd October 2014.

ASSISTANCE (S.O.156):

The Committee in the course of its consideration of the Bill heard evidence by the Chief Executive Officer for the Ministry of Finance and the Attorney General together with evidence by senior management officers stated below:

5.1 Ministry of Finance:

Tupaimatuna Iulai Lavea	-	Chief Executive Officer
Salote Peteru	-	Assistant Executive Officer (Legal Division)

5.2 Office of the Attorney General

Aumua Ming C Leung Wai	-	Attorney General
Loretta Teueli	-	Assistant Attorney General

6. **FINDINGS:**

The purpose of the Public Finance Management Amendment Bill 2014 (**the Bill**) is to amend the *Public Finance Management Act* which was passed by Parliament in 2001.

The key objective of this Bill as stated by the Ministry of Finance is to provide for the Minister to be specifically responsible for coordinating activities of all Government sectors that are related to implementing development projects and other aspects of economic plans approved by the Parliament of Samoa.

The Ministry of Finance also reiterated that this Bill provides for a new part in the Principal Act which provides for the publication and reporting of the Government's debt management strategy.

The Bill also specifies that financial statements prepared by the Financial Secretary and departments must comply with any cash basis public sector financial reporting standard developed by the International Federation of Accounts (IFAC).

The Committee noted during its deliberations that this Bill also proposes the updating of all references to the 'Statement of Economic Strategy' with the 'Strategy for the Development of Samoa'.

7. **CONSIDERATION IN DETAIL OF THE BILL**

After consideration in detail of the Bill, the Committee is satisfied with the amendments proposed by the Bill and the provisions therein except that a correction should be made to Clause 1.

Correction:

That the year "**2014**" should be removed from Clause 1 and all other parts it appears in the Bill and substituted by the year "**2015**" so that the short title of the Bill reads as follows:

"PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT AMENDMENT BILL 2015."

8. RESOLUTION:

At the conclusion of its consideration the Committee resolved to recommend the Assembly:

That the Public Finance Management Amendment Bill 2014 progresses with the proposed correction.

Hon PAPALIITELE Niko Lee Hang
Chairperson

TAFUA Maluelue Tafua
Vice Chairperson

Hon PALUSALUE Faapo II
Member

Hon FAUMUINA Tiatia Liuga
Member

LEALAILEPULE Rimoni Aiafi
Member

AFUALO Wood Dr Uti Salele
Member

TIALAVEA F T Seigafolava
Member

TAEFU Lemi Taefu
Member