



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SAMOA  
**PROCEDURAL &  
STATISTICAL DIGEST NO.7**  
JUNE 17 - 23 2014

JUNE 2014						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
16	17	18	19	20		
23	24	25	26	27		

## BILLS

### 1.01 Bills Introduced

Three Bills were introduced on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> June: the Constitution Amendment Bill (No.2) 2014, Personal Property Securities Amendment Bill 2014 and the Public Holidays Amendment Bill 2014. The Bills were introduced on a Message from the Council of Deputies and were subsequently first read by the Assembly.

Standing Orders: 95 & 99.

Constitution: Art 59.

### 1.02 The Reading of Bills

- Debate on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2013/2014 and the Appropriation Bill 2014/2015 commenced on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June. After the Government responded, both Bills were then considered in detail and third read on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June and passed the Assembly.
- On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> of June, the Constitutional Amendment Bill (No.2) 2014 was second read and now stands referred to the Business, Standing Orders, House and Electoral Committee. For Parliament to amend the Constitution in any way, the proposed Bill must receive not less than two-thirds support of the total number of Members of Parliament. At this point in the XV<sup>th</sup> Parliament's term, that equates to at least thirty one Members supporting the Bill.
- On the same day, the Family Court Bill 2013 was considered in detail, third read and passed the Assembly.

*Note: All Bills which have been third read and passed by the Assembly must then be printed fair, authenticated and assented to by Le Ao o le Malo. Once assent has been given, the Bill becomes an Act of Parliament, enforceable by law.*

Standing Orders: 94 (1), 100, 101, 102, 106, 107, 108, 109 – 112 & 131-137.

Constitution: Articles 94 & 109.

*See Also: Procedural Digest No.6, May 2014, p.1  
for details on 'Estimates of Expenditure' procedure.*

## **ASSEMBLY BUSINESS**

### **1.03 Message from The Council of Deputies**

After the formal opening of the Sitting and prayers at 9:00am, the Speaker read out a Message from the Council of Deputies to permit the introduction of the Constitution Amendment Bill (No.2) 2014, Personal Property Securities Amendment Bill 2014 and the Public Holidays Amendment Bill 2014.

*Note: Standing order 95 provides that Government Bills be presented to the Assembly on a message from Le Ao o le Malo, however, Article 23 allows the functions of the Office of Le Ao o le Malo to be performed by the Council of Deputies in his absence; as was the case on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2014.*

**Standing Orders: 75 (1) & 95.  
Constitution: Articles 23 & 59.**

### **1.04 Obituary Speech for two former Members**

After opening prayers and the reading of the Message from the Council of Deputies, the Speaker read out an obituary speech for two former Members of Parliament. Tofa TAUA Falaimo was the former representative of Palauli i Sisifo from 2006 to 2011 and Afioga TAULAPAPA Leaupepe Faimaalo was the former representative of two constituencies, Palauli i Sisifo (1970 to 1972) and Aana Alofi No.2 (1973 to 1975). The House observed a minute of silence in their honour.

**Standing Order: 44(1)(f).**

### **1.05 Change to Meeting Times**

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June, the Honourable Prime Minister moved a motion to extend the hours of sitting (3:00pm to 7:00pm) until the 2014/2015 Budget passes the Assembly; the motion was approved. The sitting on Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> however, concluded at 11:40am as Standing Orders stipulate that all Friday sittings must conclude by 12 noon.

Standing Order: 31(1).

### ***1.08 Eleven Government Responses considered and approved by the Assembly***

Government responses to nine Ministry Annual Reports, one Statement of Corporate Objectives and a Government Agency's Financial Statements for the Years 2011-2012 were tabled, considered and approved by the Assembly.

*Note: Once a Select Committee Report has been adopted by the Assembly, the Government must table its response within ninety days. This does not, however, apply to Finance and Expenditure Committee Reports on any Estimates or Supplementary Estimates (see 1.06 below).*

Standing Order: 54.

*Parliamentary Papers: 2014/2015 No.19 -22 & 26 – 32.*

## **PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES**

### ***1.06 The Finance and Expenditure Committee tabled two reports***

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June, the Finance and Expenditure Committee tabled its reports on the Second Supplementary Estimates 2013/2014 of the Receipts and Payments of the Government of Samoa for the financial year ending 20 June 2014 and the Main Estimates 2014/2015 of the Receipts and Payments of the Government of Samoa for the financial year ending 30 June 2015. Both reports were adopted by the Assembly.

Standing Order: 53, 132 & 170.

*Parliamentary Papers: 2014/2015 No.47 & 2014/2015 No.48.*

### ***1.07 Parliamentary Special Inquiry Committee tabled Report on Member Allegations against the Ministry for Revenue***

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June, the Chairman of the Parliamentary Special Inquiry Committee tabled its Report on Allegations made by the Member for Gagaemauga No.2 against the Ministry for Revenue. Following an oral allegation made within the House in

June 2013, a motion was moved for evidence to substantiate the allegations be tabled in Parliament. The Report provided to the Assembly by the Gagaemauga No.2 Member was the centre of the Special Committee's investigation. The allegations were found by the Committee to be true and the Government is to provide a response to the report within ninety days.

Standing Orders: 54 & 153.

Parliamentary Paper: 2014/201 No.57.

<b>STATISTICAL DIGEST</b> <b>17 – 20, 23 June 2014</b>		
LEGISLATION	17 – 20, 23 June 2014	Oct 2013 to date
<i>Bills presented to the Assembly</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government Bills:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Normal Passage</li> <li>- Certificate of Urgency</li> <li>- Private Members Bills</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Bills referred to Committees</li> </ul>	3 0 0 2	21 6 0 18
OTHER BUSINESS	17 – 20, 23 June 2014	Oct 2013 to date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of Sitting days</li> <li>• Total hours of Sitting (excluding suspensions):               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Business of the Assembly</li> <li>- Government Business</li> <li>- Private Member's Business</li> <li>- Other opportunities for Private Members</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	5 25 hours 30 mins 48 mins 24 hours 45 mins 0 mins 0 mins	23 103 hours 3 mins 39 hours 38 mins 62 hours 27 mins 0 mins 0 mins
Questions lodged	0	0
Urgent Questions lodged	0	0
Answers to questions (written)	0	0
Answers to questions (oral)	0	0
Petitions presented	0	0
Divisions	0	1
Parliamentary Committee reports presented	5	76