



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SAMOA  
**PROCEDURAL &  
STATISTICAL DIGEST NO.13**  
MARCH 17, 19 - 20 2015

MARCH 2015				
M	T	W	T	F
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27

## BILLS

### *1.01 Bills introduced*

Five Bills were introduced on Tuesday 17 March: the Teachers Bill 2015, Geneva Conventions Bill 2015, Water Schemes Bill 2015, Road Traffic Amendment Bill 2015 and the Acts Interpretation Bill 2015. All bills were presented to the Assembly on a message from the Council of Deputies.

Standing Orders: 95, 99.

### *1.02 Bills Second Read and Referred to Select Committees*

Seven Bills were second read on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March the *Ports Authority Amendment Bill 2014* and the *National Provident Fund Amendment Bill 2015*. On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February, the *Teachers Bill 2015*, the *Geneva Conventions Bill 2015*, the *Water Schemes Bill 2015*, the *Road Traffic Amendment Bill 2015* and the *Acts Interpretation Bill 2015* was second read, following being first read on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

- The Ports Authority Amendment Bill 2014 and the Road Traffic Amendment Bill were referred to the Works, Transport and Environment Committee;
- The National Provident Fund Amendment Bill 2015 was referred to the Finance and Expenditure Committee;
- The Teachers Bill 2015 was referred to the Education, Science, Communication and Information Technology Committee;
- The Geneva Conventions Bill 2015 was referred to the Foreign Affairs, Trade and Revenue Committee;
- The Water Schemes Bill 2015 was referred to the Health and Social Services, Internal Affairs, Community and Social Development Committee; and
- The Acts Interpretation Bill 2015 was referred to the Justice, Police and Prisons, Land and Titles Committee.

*Note: Pursuant to Standing Order 100(2), members may only discuss a Bill's principles and general merits during second reading debates. Once a Bill has been referred to a Select*

*Committee for consideration, no further proceedings may be taken until the Select Committee has presented its report on the Bill to the Assembly [S.O 101(3)].*

**Standing Orders: 100 & 101.**

### ***1.03 Bills considered in detail and third read by the Assembly***

A total of 6 Bills were considered in detail along with Committee Reports and third read: the Statistics Bill 2014 (14/15 No. 199, Report of the Government Administration Committee), the Public Finance Management Amendment Bill 2014 (14/15 No. 200, Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee), the Public Holidays Amendment Bill 2014 (14/15 No. 212, Report of the Primary Production, Commerce, Industry and Labour Committee), the Metrology Bill 2014 (14/15 No. 213, Report of the Primary Production, Commerce, Industry and Labour Committee), the Health Promotion Foundation Bill 2013 (14/15 No. 214, Report of the Health, Social Services, Internal Affairs, Community and Social Development Committee), and the Electoral Amendment Bill 2014 (14/15 No. 222, Report of the Business, Standing Orders, House and Electoral Committee).

*Note: Pursuant to Standing Order 108 after the third reading of the Bill no further questions are to be put and the Bill is passed by the Assembly.*

**Standing Orders: 55, 101 - 103 & 106 - 108.**

## **ASSEMBLY BUSINESS**

### ***1.04 Message from the Council of Deputies***

A message from the Council of Deputies to permit the introduction of five Bills on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March was read out by the Speaker, following the formal opening of the Sitting and prayers at 9.00am

*Note: Pursuant to Article 23 of the Constitution of Samoa, the Council of Deputies performs the functions of the Head of State if there is a vacancy in office of the Head of State or during the absence from Samoa of the Head of State.*

**Standing Order: 44(e).  
Constitution: Article 43.**

### **1.05 Other Announcements by Mr Speaker**

In his opening remarks on the Assembly's first sitting day, the Speaker acknowledged the presence of the participants for the second Primary School Parliamentary Programme and welcomes the participants to the House.

**Standing Order: 44(e).**

### **1.06 Government Responses tabled**

The Government tabled a two response to Select Committee Reports on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March, Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee on the Unit Trust of Samoa Annual Report for the financial year ending 30 June 2013, and the Report of the Education, Science, Communications and Information Technology Committee on the National University of Samoa Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2012.

*Note: Once a Select Committee Report has been adopted by the Assembly, the Government must table its response within ninety days with the exception of Finance and Expenditure Committee reports on any Estimates or Supplementary Estimates. Note also that pursuant to Standing Order 54(2), Government Responses are not required for the following: reports on Bills, Supplementary Order Papers, questions of privileges, Estimates and Supplementary Estimates.*

**Standing Order: 54.**

***Parliamentary Papers: 2014/2015 No. 138 & No. 143.***

## **SPEAKER**

### **1.07 Points of Order Raised by Presiding Speaker**

The Presiding Speaker noted the following point of order during the Assembly's three day proceedings:

1. Member speeches made during second reading debates on a Bill must be restricted to its content and context. This also applies to responses offered on behalf of the Government to Member queries.

**Standing Orders: 100(2).**

## PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

### *1.08 Select Committee Reports tabled*

A total of ten Committee Reports were tabled during the March Sitting. Eight were tabled on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March, one each by the Health, Social Services, Internal Affairs, Community and Social Development Committee, the Justice, Police & Prisons and Land & Titles Committee, the Government Administration Committee, two by the Finance and Expenditure Committee, and three by the Primary Production, Commerce, Industry and Labour Committee. The Business, Standing Orders, House and Electoral Committee tabled two reports on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

**Standing Order: 51.**

***Parliamentary Papers: 2014/2015 No's 212 -219 & 222 - 223.***

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

### *1.09 Change to Sitting Hours*

The Hon Prime Minister moved a motion to extend sitting hours until all Bills had been second read on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> March; the motion was approved. Assembly proceedings adjourned at 6.00pm.

*Note: Friday Sittings are to end at 12:00pm unless a motion is moved to change the Assembly's sitting hours and is approved.*

**Standing Orders: 31(1) and 45.**

### *1.10 Change in Order of Business*

The Hon Prime Minister moved a motion to suspend Standing Order 53 in order to allow for consideration of the Business, Standing Orders, House and Electoral Committee reports

*Note: Each Select Committee Report is considered in the order of which it appears on the Order Paper unless a motion is moved to change the Order of Business and is approved by the Assembly.*

**Standing Orders: 44 and 53.**

## STATISTICAL DIGEST

### 17 & 19 -20 March 2015

LEGISLATION	17 & 19 – 20 March 2015	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>	5 0 0 5	36 9 0 32
OTHER BUSINESS	17 & 19 – 20 March 2015	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>	3 21 hour 10 min 40 mins 20 hours 30 mins 0 mins 0 mins	43 210 hours 15 mins 43 hours 47 mins 164 hours 23 mins 1 hour 13 mins 0 mins
Questions delivered in the Chamber	0	0
Urgent Questions delivered in the Chamber	0	7
Answers to questions (written)	0	0
Answers to questions (oral)	0	7
Petitions presented	0	0
Divisions	0	0
Parliamentary Committee reports presented	8	118