



**[PART 4 BEGINS HERE]**

i. **TAFUA** referenced an apology conveyed by a former New Zealand Prime Minister and also quoted Hon Tuilaepa's comments made in the House. He noted that he takes a neutral stance in relation to the Bill, partially due to his love for his constituency and their need for employment. He also noted that the SAT\$4 million would be beneficial if it was in Euros and that there should be a limit on the number of people an investor may bring into the country (as additional citizens). The member then acknowledged the member for Vaimauga West's earlier speech and stated that he personally does not support the Bill but for the fact that it will aid developments within his constituency, he will offer his support.

**LEALAILEPULE** asked the Member for Aleipata Itupa i lalo to clarify his statement that "my [his] heart does not support the Bill" to which TAFUA replied that "chance favours a prepared mind."

**TUUU** queried what the member meant by "unclean" to which TAFUA referred to 1 Corinthians in his clarification of the word "unclean" and stated that some investors may be "unclean" in the sense that they will be afforded certain privileges which he believes to be unfair.

ii. **LEAUPEPE** noted that 1,800 hectares mentioned by the member for Aiga i le Tai were in fact developed by a Chinese company.

iii. TAFUA queried the Government as to investors who would enter the country with children under the age of 16 as to whether they would be eligible for scholarship opportunities provided for Samoan students. Other questions the member raised included the criteria for “good health” of applications and the course of action the Government would take if legal action were to be brought against them. He noted that actors and actresses would make ideal investor candidates and whether it would be possible for the Deputy Prime Minister to go to Los Angeles to find such investors, owing to his good looks. Other possible investors could also include plastic surgeons.

The **Hon PRIME MINISTER** commented that Samoa is ready to counter any negative influence brought to our shores.

iv. **MEMBER for SAGAGA LE USOGA: PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

MUAGUTUTAGATA Faamausili Auimatagi Peter Ah Him delivered a personal explanation in the House which detailed his decision to resign as a Member of Parliament. Following the member’s acknowledgement of support given by his constituency, the Hon Prime Minister accepted his resignation as an MP and as the Associate Minister for Commerce, Industry and Labour and a member of the HRPP party.

The **Leader of the Opposition** expressed sadness as the member’s decision to resign and wished the member all the best in his future endeavours.

**MAUALAIVAO** commented on the member’s resignation and apologised on behalf of the member for the circumstances which brought about his resignation.

**Mr Speaker** noted that the reason for the member's resignation is known however he had declined to await a final court decision. This, Mr Speaker noted, is a sign of both humility and leadership. He then acknowledged the member's resignation.

**MUAGUTUTAGATA** exited the House.

The **Leader of the Opposition** suggested that proceedings adjourn as the mood within Chambers has now changed due to the MPs resignation. Mr Speaker informed the House that the Hon Prime Minister's earlier motion still stands.

**LEAUPEPE** reminded the Chair that all final decisions are at his sole discretion and moved a motion for the Question to be put on the second reading of the bill.

The **Leader of the Opposition** clarified that the motion was to adjourn proceedings with debates on the seconding reading of the Bill to be resumed at a later sitting; not for the Bill to be second read.

The **Deputy Prime Minister** stated that the Hon LEAUPEPE had already put forward that the motion be passed for the Bill to be second read and he seconds the motion.

**AFUALO** stated that he has yet to speak on the Bill.

The **Hon PRIME MINISTER** stated that the Leader of the Opposition has already expressed his desire for proceedings to be adjourned now and requested that the Question be put for the second reading of the bill.

The **Leader of the Opposition** stated that he requested an adjournment, not for the Bill to be second read to which Mr Speaker replied that the motion was already

moved and seconded which means that the question will be put to decide it. He noted that the motion was moved according to the Leader of Opposition's request that proceedings be adjourned.

**Hon LEAUPEPE** clarified that once a motion has been moved and seconded it cannot be amended. The Leader of the Opposition again reiterated the purpose of his earlier suggestion for an adjournment. Hon AEAU noted that the Leader of the Opposition suggestion was out of respect for the Member for Sagaga le Usoga's resignation.

The Hon PRIME MINISTER stated that it has been 4 days since this Bill has been under discussion and here the Leader of the Opposition stands in complaint of the fact the some of the member's of his party have not yet addressed the House. This has come about because too many Tautua members interject and ask for clarification from the Government. If an extension is permitted for debate on this Bill all that will result is repetition of the same issues already raised.

**Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI** stated that the Standing Orders must be taken into account and that once a motion is put forward and seconded it cannot be withdrawn. The Committee inquiry stage is an alternative medium for debate on the Bill which Opposition members should remember.

**Note:** Several clarifications by members of the Opposition were given to support the intention behind the Leader of the Opposition's suggestion. The Question was put and the motion was approved. The Bill was then read a second time and stood referred to the Justice, Police and Prisons and Land and Titles Committee for consideration and a report thereon to the Assembly.

The Leader of the Opposition noted that it be recorded in Parliament's Official Records that the Opposition Party do not support the second reading of the Bill. Mr Speaker advised that members may speak on this Bill in Committee and also in Assembly when it is referred for Consideration in Detail – all are afforded opportunities to address the Bill clause by clause at that stage.

***Proceedings adjourned at 5.40pm to reconvene on the 17th March 2015.***