



[PART 3]

MOTION:

The **Hon PRIME MINISTER, TUILAÉPA Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi**, clarified that Government has reconsidered the Urgency status of the bill and has decided that it be referred to Committee for consideration due to the requests from the Opposition. This Bill is to be reported on in the May sitting, along with the Constitution Amendment Bill that it relates to.

LEALAILEPULE acknowledges Government's effort to be transparent with this decision and commends the Prime Minister for his leadership and acknowledgement of the voices of the minority.

Hon PALUSALUE Faapo II acknowledges the decision with gratitude.

Hon FIAME Naomi Mataafa, stated that the changes in the Urban area was brought to Cabinet in December, however the changes brought forth in December and February was not investigated by the Committee. The Minister requested that this be put on record as the Bill and changes have been referred for Committee investigations for four (4) months which has led up to the current changes that are being discussed before the House. In reference to the boundaries of urban areas there are two (2) major changes for the upcoming General Elections. First, to have one roll for all Samoan citizens, instead of the two rolls that currently are in existence. Secondly, Constituencies that have two (2) seats, are proposed to be

divided so that there is only one representative each and standardize the one person one vote ideal. In terms of election judgements not being subject to appeal, it was a Supreme Court ruling delivered more than 20 years ago.

LEVAOPOLO requested reconsideration of this judgement as it is unconstitutional.

The **Hon MINISTER** reminded the Member that the Supreme Court is the highest court in Samoa. The Bill provides for a candidate to challenge the qualification of another candidate before nomination day but as for the results after the election, it can be appealed. The Hon Minister reiterated the newly proposed boundaries for Vaimauga and Faleata, the reason for this is the definition of urban areas. This would mean that one Urban Constituency covers two traditional constituencies as per amendment that was passed, however, only for the upcoming General Elections. Noted also that there have been numerous issues and changes in regards to Elections. The Hon MINISTER then requested for the Committee to present to Parliament its report in the next Sitting along with the Constitutional Amendment Bill in order to provide sufficient time for the Office to carry out its duties.

SPEAKER stated that the Bill will not be referred to the Business, Standing Orders and Electoral Committee as per normal practice however it will be referred to the Primary Productions, Commerce, Industry and Labour Committee. Mr Speaker further instructed that the Constitutional Amendment Bill be reported on in the May sitting.

The motion to second read the Electoral Amendment Bill (No. 2) was approved and the Bill was read a second time and stood referred to the Primary Production, Industry and Labour Committee for consideration and a report thereon in the May sitting.

9. International Companies Amendment Bill 2015 (Second Reading).

The **Hon PRIME MINISTER, TUILAPEA Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielagaoi** moved a motion for the Bill to be read a second time. The Hon Prime Minister made a brief statement clarifying the Bill. Stated that the Bill seeks to amend the Principal Act 1988. The amendments will ensure that Samoa complies with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation (OECs) standards. The three objectives are to eliminate the issuing of bearer shares, require an international company to keep accounting records and the type of information required to be kept and provide consequential amendments to the Special Purpose International Companies Act 2012, International Partnership and Limited Partnership Act 1998 and Trusts Act 2014 to reflect amendments in relation to keeping of accounting records. The OEC's after their review report, requires that the companies keep true records of their financials. The review report also found that there were Companies that were established under questionable circumstances. The purpose for the constant amendments is to ensure that Samoa complies with the international standards in terms of International Companies and their financial reporting. If Samoa complies with these international standards, foreign investors will invest in our country. For instance, SIFA sponsors the Manu Samoa and they contribute to the development of the economy and this is the important objective of the Bill so as to ensure that Financial institutions like SIFA continue to succeed.

The motion to second read the International Companies Amendment Bill 2015 was approved and the Bill was read a second time.

10. Casino and Gambling Control Amendment Bill 2015 (consideration in detail)

The Bill was considered in detail, no amendments were made to the Bill.

11. International Companies Amendment Bill 2015 (consideration in detail)

The Bill was considered in detail, no amendments were made to the Bill.

12. Casino and Gambling Control Amendment Bill 2015 (Third Reading)

The **Hon PRIME MINISTER, TUILAPEA Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielagaoi** moved a motion for the Bill to be read a third time. Upon the motion being approved, the Bill was read a third time.

The Casino and Gambling Control Amendment Bill 2015 was passed by the Assembly without amendments.

13. International Companies Amendment Bill 2015 (Third Reading)

The **Hon PRIME MINISTER, TUILAPEA Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielagaoi** moved a motion for the Bill to be read a third time. Upon the motion being approved, the Bill was read a third time.

The International Amendment Bill 2015 was passed by the Assembly without amendments.

Proceedings were suspended for its usual evening break at 8.26pm

Proceedings resumed at 9.05pm.