

**DAY 2: MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JUNE 2015**

**TIME: 3:00pm**

**[PART B]**

**I. GOVERNMENT ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**1. SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (No.2) 2014/2015 and  
APPROPRIATION BILL 2015/2016 (debate on second reading resumed)**

**i. MAUALAIVAO *Pat Ah Him, Independent Member***

The Member sought to clarify which villages and areas are under his new (urban area) constituency.

**ii. TOEOLESULUSULU *Cedric Pose Salesa Schuster, Aana Alofi No.3***

The Member also sought to have this issue clarified. He stated that the urban seat has yet to be recognised in anticipation of the upcoming General Elections. He noted that at present, there are still members enrolled on the Individual roll and not the urban roll.

**iii. LEALAILEPULE *Rimoni Aiafi, Faleata West***

LEALAILEPULE noted that he had advised the Independent Member against speaking on the 'urban area' constituency, but that he should focus on his 'old portfolio'. This would avoid any misunderstanding.

**iv. Mr SPEAKER**

Mr Speaker encouraged Members to permit the Independent Member to continue speaking on behalf of his new constituency. He noted that it was important to do so as the urban roll has already been established by Act of Parliament, despite the fact that the reforms are yet to be implemented.

**v. MAUALAIVAO Pat Ah Him, Independent Member**

The Member clarified he has begun referring to himself as the Member for the 'urban seat' as a result of the Member for Faleata West's previous comments that the individual voter's roll no longer exists.

**vi. LEVAOPOLO Talatonu, Gagaemauga No.2**

LEVAOPOLO noted that MAUALAIVAO read out the list of villages included in the Urban roll but neglected to mention Lotopa, the Member's place of residence.

**vii. LEALAILEPULE Rimoni Aiafi, Faleata West**

The Member for Faleata West noted that the MAUALAIVAO appeared to be disrespecting the Members for Faleata West and East. He stated that the Member should comment on developments for the individual voter's roll which is the seat he currently occupies.

**viii. MAUALAIVAO Pat Ah Him, Independent Member**

The Member continued with his address and suggested that the Government expand its water drilling programme at Ululoloa to Aleisa. He also requested that the roads at Aleisa be repaired. The Member continued by expressing gratitude to the Minister and Chief Executive of the Ministry for Education, for work completed within this parliamentary term. He also expressed gratitude to the Minister for Health for the new hospital building at Motootua. The Member stated, that despite

there still being an issue with the hospital's operating hours, he acknowledged that this may be due to preference being given to emergency cases after hours. The Member also alluded to complaints from the public that the hospital is preferential in its delivery of service.

The Member also acknowledged that as a result of the amendments made to the electoral system, there should be no more labels such as "half-caste", as all citizens are now recognised as Samoan.

**ix. Hon TUITAMA Talalelei Tuitama, Aana Alofi No., Minister for Health**

In response to MAUALAIVAO's previous comments, the Hon Minister stated that he is only aware of discrimination in predominately Caucasian societies; he therefore required clarification as to this statement. However, the Hon Minister acknowledged that presently, the hospital is working towards such issues by reassessing its internal grievance policy.

**x. Hon PALUSALUE Faapo II, Safata, Leader of the Opposition**

The Leader of the Opposition expressed his concern as to the apparent disagreement between the Minister and Associate Minister for Health. PALUSALUE stated that this shows there to be dissonance between the two.

**xi. MAUALAIVAO Pat Ah Him, Independent Member**

The Member explained that the 'discrimination' he had referred to was possibly due to a misconstrued public perception which resulted from hospital staff prioritizing emergency medical cases at various times.

**xii. ALO Fuifui Taveuveu, Anoamaa East**

The Member for Anoamaa East expressed his gratitude for the budget tabled by the Government. He noted that despite there being reductions in appropriations, there are projects which have not been included on paper.

ALO thanked the MNRE for its plans to build a water tank in his constituency. He then requested that a seawall be built at Falefa, which he had requested at the beginning of this parliamentary term. The Member thanked the MWTI for the road at Manunu and their proposal that the road be sealed. He also noted that the road at Lalomauga was in need of repair. He also requested that an access road be constructed inland at Falefa; re-construction was necessary due to residents moving inland for fear of the effects of natural disasters.

**xiii. FAGAAIVALU Kenrick Samu, Aleipata Itupa i Luga**

The Member began his address by expressing his condolences to the family of former MP, Toomalatai Lauvai II for his passing. He then continued by expressing gratitude to all who had contributed to the 2015/2016 budget.

FAGAAIVALU also expressed his gratitude to the MWTI for the road constructed from Samusu to Lalomanu, (a tsunami evacuation road) which was opened last week. The Member stated that this road services an area which is densely populated and therefore it was a necessity. He then requested that roads be constructed at Ulutogia, Vailoa and Lalomanu. He also noted that the Tiavea road needs to be upgraded due to erosion from heavy rainfall; it has become a potential safety hazard. The Member also requested that a seawall be built for the village of Lata. The seawall (which had previously been upgraded) was destroyed as a result of the 2009 Tsunami, however, the foundation remains intact therefore reconstruction could begin immediately.

In addressing the Samoa Water Authority (SWA), the Member requested that water supplies be installed inland within his constituency. The Member also stated that his constituency is prone to strong winds; he therefore suggested that the EPC consider wind turbines to harness electricity, for this part of the island.

**xiv. MANUALESAGALALA *Mati Tuigamala Enokati Posala, Safata, Minister for Works, Transport and Infrastructure.***

The Hon Minister stated that there are discussions underway between the Ministry and the World Bank in regards to cyclone relief funds which will be utilised for the maintenance of the said bridges. The Ministry estimates that work to be undertaken for the Tiavea road will be costly. In response to the Member's comments about street lights which do not work, the Hon Minister requested the cooperation of the relevant village chiefs in order to identify the street light numbers, which will enable the Ministry to identify exactly what and where the needs are for repair work.

**xv. FAGAAIVALU *Kenrick Samu, Aleipata Itupa i Luga***

The Member highlighted the need for the Satitooa wharf to be effectively utilised. He stated that the Government must identify ways in which the wharf can become more effective. He then noted his gratitude to the Ministry of Health for the hospital at Lalomanu and requested that a dialysis machine be procured for his constituency.

**xvi. Hon TUITAMA *Talalelei Tuitama, Aana Alofi No.1***

The Hon Minister queried how many residents within the Aleipata district required dialysis treatment, so the Ministry may determine the number of required dialysis machines.

**xvii. FAGAAIVALU Kenrick Samu, Aleipata Itupa i Luga**

The Member stated that approximately 10 residents required dialysis treatment. The Member then expressed his gratitude to the Minister for Police for his efforts in ensuring the security of Samoa's citizens. He requested that the Ministry look at the construction of a police branch at Lalomanu.

**xviii. Hon SALA Fata Lisati Pinati, Gagaemauga No.1**

The Minister expressed his disappointment at the Member mentioning the police post at Lalomanu; particularly given the fact that he is the Associate Minister for the Ministry. However, the Hon Minister clarified that the construction will begin by year's end.

**xix. FAGAAIVALU Kenrick Samu, Aleipata Itupa i Luga**

The Member stated that the building where the police are currently located was established 4 years previously.

**xx. Hon PALUSALUE Faapo II, Safata, Leader of the Opposition**

The Leader of the Opposition commented that proceedings have been delayed due to the Minister and the Associate Minister being in disagreement. He noted that Samoa is well aware of the Prime Minister's earlier comments that members of the HRPP cooperate; however, this was not apparent from the statements made by Ministers and their Associates.

**xxi. FAGAAIVALU Kenrick Samu, Aleipata Itupa i Luga**

The Member expressed his gratitude to the Minister for Education for the Ministries efforts in upgrading teacher qualifications. He requested that his consistency be allocated additional teaching staff for their schools.

**xxii. MAUALAIVAO Pat Ah Him, Independent Member**

The Member stated that the Leader of the Opposition's interjectory comments required clarification. He stated that the point which he had raised in regards to the Minister for Health was a recommendation to improve health services.

**xxiii. Hon PALUSALUE Faapo II, Safata, Leader of the Opposition**

Hon PALUSALUE disagreed with the Independent Member's comments and asserted that the delay in proceedings was due to the disagreements between Ministers and their Associates.

**xxiv. TUILEUTU Alavaa Voi, Faasaleleaga No.3**

TUILEUTU expressed his gratitude to all Cabinet Ministers for the successful implementation of various national projects and developments; he also acknowledged that such a task was not a simple one. The Member for Faasaleleaga No.3 recounted requests he had put forward at the outset of the parliamentary term. He again requested that the roads within his constituency be repaired. The Member noted that these roads had initially been a Government priority but are yet to be repaired. The Member also requested that the seawall encompassing Faga, Salimu and Siumalae also be repaired. For the hospital at Tuasivi, the Member offered his gratitude to the Minister for Health and the Ministry generally.

In addition to the above requests, the Member suggested that there be a single location for all Government Ministries and bodies within the Salelologa Township. This would render Government services more accessible to Savaii residents. The Member also requested a conference facility for Savaii to service Government officials when visiting Savaii. These developments should be built in a single

location. The Member then stated his appreciation for the ports in Savaii and the parking allotments. However, he noted that the waiting lines at the ports were disruptive.

**xxv. Hon MANUALESAGALALA Mati Tuigamala Enokati Posala, Safata, Minister for Works, Transport and Infrastructure.**

The Hon Minister responded by stating that repairs to the Mulifanua wharf were being carried out, but not at Salelologa. The Hon Minister noted that currently, there are issues surrounding the Salelologa land which must first be remedied before reconstruction can begin. There are also plans in the pipeline to extend the parking area at the same wharf. However, the issues alluded to earlier must first be remedied to permit development to begin.

**xxvi. TUILEUTU Alavaa Voi, Faasaleleaga No.3**

The Member for Faasaleleaga No.3 thanked the Hon Minister for his clarification. He then suggested that the Ministry for Agriculture consider further initiatives which will promote the farming and production of coconuts and cocoa. He noted that Faga is in need of these types of initiatives which would result in an overall development of his constituency. The Member also requested an upgrade of the existing access roads in this locale. In conclusion, the Member reiterated the theme of this year's budget "to live within our means" but noted that this does permit the neglecting of certain areas during emergencies and natural disasters. He stated that funds and the appropriate allocation thereof must be prioritized accordingly.

**Proceedings were suspended at 4:45pm for afternoon tea.**  
**Proceedings resumed at 5:25pm.**

**xxvii. LENATAI Victor Faafoi Tamapua, Vaimauga West**

The Member began his address by expressing gratitude for the constructions which have been undertaken to the road from Moataa Uta to Maagiagi. The Member then requested that road repairs be undertaken for Faatoia as he had previously requested. He noted that repairs to this road had been approved but were delayed due to Cyclone Evan. The Member also reiterated his appreciation for the works of the Ministry for Natural Resources and Environment, particularly for the construction of the seawall encompassing Matautu and Vaiala and further thanked the Ministry for approving the construction of a road leading to the lower area of Maagiagi.

The Member wished the Ministry to note a possible issue with this construction proposal; namely that the said road would lead to Lelata which primarily consists of freehold land. For this reason, the Member proposes that the new road be constructed alongside the existing Mormon chapel in Maagiagi. The Member continued by acknowledging the proposed footpath for Moataa and congratulated the Ministry of Agriculture for its attendance at the FAO (Food & Agriculture Organization) conference in Rome where they were given an award.

LENATAI then acknowledge the work of the Ministry of Justice, in terms of registration for elections. He did however note that the Office of the Electoral Commissioner (OEC) required that in order to register, a letter from one's Puleuu is required. This is in addition to other documents such as one's passport or birth certificate. The Member asserted that this has proved to be both timely and expensive for many wishing to register; the process is simply too complicated for the average Samoan citizen. The Member therefore requested that eligible voters

be permitted to choose whether they register to vote for the urban seat or a constituency seat.

**xxviii. TUISA Tasi Patea, Sagaga le Falefa**

TUISA stated that the theme for the budget “Live within our means” accurately reflects the overall theme for this financial year. The Member noted that in terms of economic growth, national revenue is soon to reach 2 billion. Furthermore, he noted that several new businesses have been established within Samoa, which he strongly supports. The Member continued by recommending a reshuffling of the Ministry for Revenue. He suggested that the Divisions of Customs and Tax be separated to encourage efficiency. In addressing the Minister for Health, the Member noted that 70 million was appropriated for this single Ministry. He acknowledged their work but also touched on the complaints from the public in terms of the delays in their services. The Member also noted that 1.1 million has been allocated to the NKF. TUISA also noted that increasing taxes for alcohol and cigarettes has been beneficial in promoting a reduction in consumption, as it is a contributing factor to kidney failure.

The Member noted his support for the appropriation of funds for education and noted that it remains unclear whether funds will include pre-schools. Furthermore, he noted that there is sometimes a breakdown in communication between the Parent Teacher Associations (PTA) and teachers, and between teachers and the village. He therefore recommends that the School Review Officers (asiasi aoga) assess the work of teachers.

**xxix. Hon MAGELE Mauiliu, Faasaleleaga No.1**

The Hon Minister noted that this issue had been raised at the last sitting; the issue regarding SROs. MAGELE noted that these positions were removed per Cabinet directive but have since been reinstated.

**xxx. TUISA Tasi Patea, Sagaga le Falefa**

TUISA requested that the field at Saleimoa be developed as a means of providing a training ground for youths to develop their sporting abilities.

**xxxii. Hon MAGELE Mauiliu, Faasaleleaga No.1**

The Hon Minister noted that if the Member had been to his constituency in the previous week, he would have been aware that this project is already in progress.

**xxxiii. TUISA Tasi Patea, Sagaga le Falefa**

TUISA congratulated the Minister of Agriculture for the award given at the FAO Conference in Rome. He acknowledged the Minister's work and noted that Samoa has strong food security. The Member then gave an example of how self employed work in Samoa may not pay tax or be registered with the NPF, but are still to be considered "employed". This, as has been seen, is contrary to the beliefs of the Opposition on this matter.

**xxxiiii. Hon PALUSALUE Faapo II, Safata, Leader of the Opposition**

The Leader of the Opposition stated that there were two reasons for "chuckling". The first is that it appears that the Member is unaware of the field project underway in his constituency. Two, the Member should consider himself lucky to have farmers in Samoa who can offer both to obtain food and pay taxes but do not have "jobs".

**xxxv. LEVAOPOLO Talatonu, Gagaemauga No.2**

LEVAOPOLO noted that the Member's speech appears to portray his support for farmers who do not pay tax, which directly conflicts with the legislation wherein the Government will require farmers to pay tax.

**xxxv. Hon PRIME MINISTER**

The Hon PRIME MINISTER noted that the Bill which the Member for Gagaemauga No.2 referred to was "from the Opposition".

**xxxvi. TUISA Tasi Patea, Sagaga le Falefa**

The Member then addressed the Apprenticeship Scheme and noted that there are only two options available to school leavers. The first is that they may become farmers and the second is that they may take on an apprenticeship if they possess the requisite skills for a particular trade. The Member suggested that the criteria governing acceptance to an apprenticeship should be relaxed in order to encourage more school leavers to apply.

In terms of tourism, the Member noted that approximately 70% of the budget allocated to the Samoa Tourism Authority (STA) is for development and improvements within the industry and its associated services. The Member also noted his support for the new Commissioner for Police and new police initiatives. He also encouraged the Commissioner for Prisons and Correctional Services to continue his good work. The Member then noted his gratitude to the Ministry of Works for the projects implemented around Samoa and also requested that the Utumoa road neighbouring Faleula be connected to the Aele road. In particular, he requested that the sharp turn at this road be redesigned to avoid potential accidents. He also noted that the roads at Saleimoa, Tufulua and Lotoso'a need to be sealed. In order to fund these projects, the Member suggested that the Government loan to finance developments to access roads across Samoa.

**xxxvii. TOEOLESULUSULU Cedric Pose Salesa Schuster, Aana Alofi No.3**

TOEOLESULUSULU queried the truth in the statement that the Government is unable to apply for development loans due to its 'developing country' status.

**xxxviii. TUISA Tasi Patea, Sagaga le Falefa**

TUISA recommends that the Government request a large development loan to fund road developments in each constituency. This will solve the issue of Members constantly requesting road repairs during each parliamentary term.

**xxxix. PALUSALUE Faapo II, Safata, Leader of the Opposition**

PALUSALUE sought clarification from the member as to his comments, and noted that we do not control government loans. We have been advised by the World Bank to be mindful of our loans.

**xl. Hon PRIME MINISTER**

The Hon PRIME MINISTER stated that he deals directly with the World Bank on behalf of Samoa; therefore he is fully aware of the current loan situation.

**xli. TAEFU Lemi, Falelatai & Samatau**

TAEFU recounted the Lord 's Prayer, emphasising the words "give us this day our daily bread" and asserted that it refers to "smart planning" and "diligent budgeting". In his opinion, this is a reflection of the financial budget theme for this year.

The Member, in referring to the Public Service Commission (PSC), stated that the PSC CEO position has been disestablished and its functions continued by the Chair of the Commission. This is a change which the Member fully supports. The Member

then touched on the issue of the appropriate usage of the Tuanaimoto Sports Complex. He stated that according to reports presented to the relevant Committee, the land is not under the Samoa Sports Facilities Authority (SSFA). The Member recommended that Tuanaimoto should follow the same procedure which was followed for Apia Park.

In regards to the School of Maritime at the National University of Samoa, the Member suggested that the programme be reassessed owing to Samoa Shipping establishing its own Maritime School. The Member also queried the process whereupon children under the care of the Samoa Victim Support Group (SVSG) are returned to their families.

**xlii. *Hon FONOTOE Nuafesili Pierre Laufofo, Anoamaa West, Deputy Prime Minister***

The Deputy Prime Minister informed the House that the NUS was establishing an Oceanside campus for the Maritime School for sailors on international ships. The Samoa Shipping Company is a school for 'domestic travel' which will train local sailors who would be servicing inter-island travel. The Deputy Prime Minister suggested that perhaps in the future, the two institutions may merge or consider some form of educational collaboration.

**xliii. *MANUALESAGALALA Mati Tuigamala Enokati Posala, Safata, Minister for Works, Transport and Infrastructure.***

The Hon Minister responded to the above issue by stating that there may be an apparent duplication of schools as under the SSC, trainings are certified by the Samoa Qualifications Authority (SQA). The Central Pacific Shipping Commission Conference was recently held where there was a focus on the attainment of overseas employment for local seamen.

**xliv. TAEFU Lemi, Falelatai & Samatau**

The Member expressed his gratitude for the SVSG but queried whether there were proper guidelines as to the date children are to be released from their (SVSG) care. He emphasised the need for these children to be reintegrated into mainstream education.

**xlv. TUISUGALETAUA Sofara Aveau, Vaimauga East, Minister Commerce, Labour and Industry**

Commenting on the SVSG issue, the Hon Minister reminded the House that the SVSG is an independent organisation. In terms of release dates for children, the Hon Minister stated that an agreement must be reached between SVSG and the child's family. He noted that approximately 5 scholarships are offered to those children under the supervision of the SVSG; particularly those in need of formal or mainstream education.

**xlvi. TAEFU Lemi, Falelatai & Samatau**

TAEFU noted that it may be beneficial to provide such scholarships to all children (as opposed to only 5) under the supervision of the SVSG.

**xlvii. Hon PRIME MINISTER**

The Hon PRIME MINISTER noted that this is a sensitive issue, particularly in cases where a child has been subject to incest. Should a child be released back to a family in which he or she suffered from this abuse without proper protection? Such an issue is troublesome when discussing the return of these children back into their homes and society generally.

**xlviii. TAEFU Lemi, Falelatai & Samatau**

The Member asserted that the future of the children under the supervision of the SVSG should be considered by the organisation.

The Member then addressed issues of water quality and proposed certain methods relating to this. He suggested that the Government reassess this issue and to re-allocate its funds accordingly.

The Member then expressed gratitude for works completed by the EPC, despite the recent redundancies. He advised the Government to put less focus on the concentration of power and focus more on its distribution.

Other issues touched on by the Member included construction of the road adjacent to Aana II College and a request that buses be provided for those students to live far away from the local schools.

**xlix. Hon PALUSALUE Faapo II, Safata, Leader of the Opposition**

Hon PALUSALUE questioned the Member as to his request for buses; was he requesting the provision of private buses for these students?

**i. TAEFU Lemi, Falelatai & Samatau**

In terms of produce, TAEFU suggested that the quality of taro grown in Samoa should be reassessed. He stated that variety 1 is currently being exported but that variety 2 is of a better quality. Another request was to limit hospital visitations to times other than the mornings, which is the times doctors make their daily rounds. Visitors are disallowed entry till after the doctors' visits.

**ii. Hon TUITAMA Talalelei Tuitama, Aana Alofi No.1**

The Hon Minister stated that before doctors make their daily rounds in the hospital, they also prepare for surgeries to be done on any given morning. It is for this reason that visits by family and friends are only permitted at certain times.

**lii. TAEFU Lemi, Falelatai & Samatau**

TAEFU corrected the Hon Minister and stated that he was referring to doctor visitations to patients, not visitations to patients by family and friends.

**liii. TUITAMA Talalelei Tuitama, Aana Alofi No.1**

The Hon Minister noted that there were hospitals at Falelatai and Lefaga and that the changes that have been implemented are to improve service efficiency. In regards to the Faleolo branch, it was established to ensure that health services are readily available to those within that area; that is, areas surrounding the international airport.

**Proceedings were adjourned at 7:00pm to be resumed at 9:00am on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2015.**