

## DISCLAIMER

This Report provides a brief of the Proceedings of Parliament on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022**. While all efforts have been made to provide an informative brief, this information must not be relied upon as an alternative to the official Hansard record of proceedings of Parliament. If you have any specific questions about the Proceedings of Parliament on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022**, you should consult the official Hansard or seek assistance from the Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

## DAY 1

9:30am

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022

### I. NOTICE FROM THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Pursuant to Standing Order 76, Mr Speaker read out the Notice by the Leader of the House to permit the introduction of the *Labour and Employment Relations Amendment Bill 2022*.

### II. OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Hon Speaker firstly greeted the House and Samoa in its honorific salutations. He then stated that due State of Emergency Orders and taking precautionary measure to minimize exposure, the number of people in the Assembly have been limited. He further noted that RAT tests were conducted yesterday during the Members briefing and informed the House that the Legislative Assembly Office has provided more tests today and will be assisted by Health officials outside near the Parliament House to conduct more test for any Member that was unable to take a test yesterday.

### III. PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY AND STATE OF EMERGENCY ORDERS

Mr Speaker read out the State of Emergency signed by the O Le Ao o le Malo on the advice of the Cabinet - An Emergency Order No.77 was in effect at 12.01am Wednesday 20 April 22 – 11.59pm Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Mary 2022.

### IV. OBITUARY SPEECHES

Mr Speaker read out an obituary speech for the deceased Members of Parliament:

- i. TUPUOLA Siaoisi Sola Hunt:
  - Member of Parliament for two Parliamentary terms – 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>

- Member of the Samoa National Democratic Party (SNDP);
  - Member for Siumu;
  - Member in three Select Committees in the 10<sup>th</sup> Parliamentary Term (1988-1991).
- ii. VAELE Paiaaaua Iona Paiaaaua Sekuini:
- Member for Gagaifomauga No.2 for the current 17<sup>th</sup> Parliamentary Term;
  - Member of the Faatuatua i le Atua Samoa ua Tasi (FAST) Party and served Parliament for 10 months;
  - Member for Standing Orders, Electoral, Petition and Constitutional Offices Committee and Special Committee;
  - Chairperson for the Finance and Expenditure Committee; and
  - Associate Minister for the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Mr Speaker then conveyed condolences to the families of the two deceased Members and called upon the House to withstand and observe a minute of silence as a gesture of respect. Whilst observing a minute of silence, Mr Speaker said a prayer.

## **V. PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

A total of 9 Annual Reports were tabled.

## **VI. MOTION BY THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION**

Pursuant to S.O 170 (2) (a) (b) (c) the Deputy Chairperson of the Commission, AUAAPAU Mulipola Aloitafua put forth the motion to recommend membership for Parliamentary Committees which have been made vacant as a result of the passing away of the Member for Gagaifomauga No.2, VAELE Paiaaaua Iona Paiaaaua Sekuin, for the Legislative Assembly's approval.

### **1. Standing Orders, Electoral, Petitions and Constitutional Offices Committee**

SEUAMULI Fasi Toma – Member for Gagaemauga No.2

### **2. Finance and Expenditure Committee**

AUAAPAU Mulipola Aloitafua – Member for Aiga-i-le-Tai

## **VII. MOTION BY THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE**

The Hon Prime Minister stated that Mr Speaker has already delivered in his announcement their sympathy wishes to the family of the late Member of Parliament, VAELE Paiaaaua Iona Paiaaaua Sekuini and read out his role in respective Committee's. Given that he was a Member for the Special Committee that was established on 1<sup>st</sup>

February 2022 on a motion she moved, she moved a motion for SEUAMULI Fasi Toma as a member for the Special Committee in order to meet the numbers of the established Committee given that the matter referred to them is still being deliberated on;

**Motion was seconded and approved.**

## **VIII. GOVERNMENT ORDERS OF THE DAY**

### **1. LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS AMENDMENT BILL 2022 – first reading**

#### **Afioga Hon LEATINUU Wayne Soialo – Minister for Commerce, Industry and Labour**

The Hon Minister moved a motion for the Labour and Employment Relations Amendment Bill 2022 to be first read;

Motion approved and the Bill was first read.

#### **▪ Other Announcement by the Speaker**

Mr Speaker announced that the Order of the Day for the Assembly has concluded and informed the members of respective Parliamentary Committees that 5 committee rooms have been reserved for their meetings at the Tofilau Eti Alesana Building as they still have several reports to consider.

#### **▪ Hon TUILAEPa Dr Sailele Malielegaoi- Leader of the Opposition**

Hon. TUILAEPa Dr Sailele Malielegaoi expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the Government, Cabinet and Members of Parliament for their prayers whilst recovering off island. He acknowledged the work done by the Prime Minister and her Cabinet during these uncertain times, especially the Minister for Health and his Ministry for monitoring the rapid spread of the virus; however, he encouraged them to stay strong and have faith. He then emphasised that this is a collective matter so our country should all work together to minimize the virus.

In regards to Parliamentary Committees, he asserted that this is a training ground for all Members as this is where they mostly interact with CEO's and seek their advice on the betterment for our country. He then acknowledged the Speaker for his encouragement towards the Parliamentary Committees to do their work and accentuated that the Opposition are also putting in their fair share accordingly but it is the discretion of the government to accept the advice given or not. He also commended the Speaker on the short sitting for today which will give the Members enough time to read the Bill that was tabled today.

The Leader of the Opposition then concluded his remarks by conveying his heartfelt condolences to the family of the deceased Members, VAELE Paiaaava Iona Paiaaava Sekuini and Tupuola Siasia Sola Hunt and also acknowledged their work and commitment in Parliament.

▪ **Hon Fiame Naomi Mataafa- Prime Minister**

The Hon Prime Minister gave her support to the speech that was made by the Opposition Leader and again emphasised the importance of the work in Parliamentary Committees.

She concluded by urging Members to commence Committee work given the restrictions for the Pandemic have been somewhat relaxed enabling such number to meet. She stressed there is a lot of work referred to Committee and it is time that they be reported back to Parliament for relevant action.

**Proceedings were adjourned at 10:13am and is to reconvene on Friday 29<sup>th</sup>  
April 2022, 9:30am.**