

**DISCLAIMER**

This Report provides a brief of “**PART B**” of the Proceedings of Parliament on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 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 “**PART B**” of Parliament on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022**, you should consult the official Hansard or seek assistance from the Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

**PART B**

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

**6:07pm**

- I. GOVERNMENT ORDERS OF THE DAY – Reading of Bills (DAY 4)**
- 1. SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.2) 2021/2022 – debate on second reading**
- 2. APPROPRIATION BILL 2022/2023 – debate on second reading**

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**GOVERNMENT RESPONSES (cont.)**

**Afioga Hon VALASI Tapitofanua - Minister of Health (cont.)**

In response to Vaimauga 1 queries regarding the notable decrease in allocations for Health, the Minister clarified that medical check-up have decreased from \$10 to \$8 while the check up for children below 15yrs are free, in addition to the free check-up for pensioners and pregnant mothers. The Hon Minister responded to the Member for Aana regarding the provision of food for patients in district hospitals, and clarified that this was one of the promises in the manifesto of the FAST Party, therefore the Government intends to install a kitchen and assign a cook to cater for all patients in district hospitals, as this service is only offered in the main hospitals at Motootua and Tuasivi. Furthermore, the Minister clarified that the Ministry will consider for a vehicle as requested by the member for Satupaitea to service the hospital and doctors as this is all part of the package needed for doctors who will be assigned to district hospitals to ensure the proper care is offered to patients. The Minister responded to the Member for Gagaemauga 2 regarding no doctor to service the Avaio district hospital, and he asserted that doctors do not want to be assigned to this area due to preference.

- **Afioga SEUAMULI Fasi Toma – Member for Gagaemauga 2**

The Member confirmed that the Vaipouli Hospital is not a demonic place further stated that it is the nurses and doctors spreading nonsense rumors.

**Afioga Hon VALASI Tapitofanua - Minister of Health (cont.)**

The Minister clarified on allegations made by the Member for Gagaemauga 2 regarding the poor condition of the NKF and emphasized that the NKF will be relocated to its new premises in October this year. Furthermore, the Minister informed the House of the equipment currently in operation for both main hospitals (there are 22 machines at TTM and 9 machines that are being used at Tausivi Hospital and with these machines, there are nurses, engineers and those specialized in fixing and operating these machines so it will be well maintained.) The Minister noted that there are 165 patients undergoing dialysis whereby 4 patients are treated per day from Monday to Saturday. Furthermore, the Minister also noted the increasing number of people admitted for dialysis and the numbers continue to increase each year. Hon Minister further explained that approximately from 499 to 500 people who have had tests show that they need to undergo dialysis but are afraid to do so, or come forward for treatment until they are severely ill.

The Hon Minister noted important dates for the Ministry, such as in October, the NKF will relocate to its new location where the isolation units used to be at the Hospital. The Minister reassured that the place has been renovated. Furthermore, in September, engineers from Germany will arrive to service and operate the dialysis machines/equipment. Hon Minister noted with the increase of dialysis patients, the Ministry continues collaboration with the Ministry of Women to initiate programs that promote healthy eating, healthy living and exercising. In regards to the housing for doctors, the Hon Minister informed the Assembly of the tendering process, and that this project is expected to commence before year's end, noting that an allocation of 3million is included to cater for this.

The Hon Minister mentioned initiatives and achievements by the Ministry; there was an established oxygen supply which can now refill oxygen tanks, this was made possible by the assistance from New Zealand partners, Hon Minister asserted that this Oxygen Plant is able to cater for 200 tanks. In regards to the CT scanner, the Hon Minister acknowledged the ACC and MCIL for proper financing to ensure this is achieved for our people.

The Hon Minister concluded by acknowledging his constituency and thanked them for their support, further confirming that the 200k for development of the constituency is in safekeeping and will be utilised in the appropriate time.

**Tofa Hon LEATINUU Wayne Soialo – Minister for MCIL/MPE/SLC**

The Hon Minister addressed the House and Samoa in all her honorific salutations. Then continued to address the numerous concerns and queries raised by his fellow parliamentarians. The Hon Minister elaborated that his portfolio includes 9 corporations, however only 3 of those were raised by Members in their speeches, which are: Samoa Airways, MCIL and SLC.

The Hon Minister clarified on an issue raised by the Member for Salega 1 regarding land which holds the Church in this constituency. The Minister clarified, the Corporation monitored this land for 4 years but there were no developments on the 7.5 acres that was given to the AOG Church. Therefore, the Corporation took back 4 acres, leaving the 3.5 acres for the church to cultivate and use; however if the Church wishes to take this land back for development it can also be arranged with proper process and procedures followed.

He then addressed the query from Member for Aana No 1 who requested 50 acres for their office and developments in the constituency. The Hon Minister clarified that the government holds about 250 acres near Faleasiu, currently the villagers continue to cultivate the lands without any lease signed and further advising the people to please consult with the Office to ensure proper arrangements are made for the lease of these lands for cultivation. Furthermore, the Hon Minister noted that the villagers sometimes obstruct/faalavelave when the employees of the corporation come to survey the lands and draw boundaries, however these are government land.

Hon Minister noted comments made by the Member for Aana No 3 that there was not enough land to make developments for the constituency, which the Minister noted that the land at Kasala, have been distributed and leased to Aana No 2 constituency. He further noted that there are no land available for lease at Tanumalala, as these have already been leased out to the people for developments. In regards to Faleata No.1's request for land at Laloanea he reassured the Member that the Corporation will look into his request and provide land when necessary.

In regards to the request by the Member for Vaimauga 1, the Hon Minister recalled that this minister incessantly requested for his lands to be returned to his constituency for the entire 16<sup>th</sup> Parliamentary term, and continues to do so in the current term. He feels for his fellow parliamentarian, however there are several issues obstructing these land. He assured the Member that by the end of the year a solution will be made on how to go forward with the development of the land in his constituency.

*Due to an unexpected technical fault – proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were adjourned until Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 9:30am.*