

March
2021

PARLIAMENTARY SITTING SUMMARY

DISCLAIMER

This Report provides a brief of the Proceedings of Parliament on **Tuesday 2nd March 2021**. 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 2nd March 2021**, you should consult the official Hansard or seek assistance from the Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

PART B

Day 31
6:22pm

Tuesday 2nd March 2021

1. MISCELLANEOUS (SALARIES CONDITIONS UPON SUSPENSION) BILL 2020- consideration in detail (Cont.)

NAFOITOA Talaimanu Ketu, Chairperson of the Standing Orders, Petition, Electoral and Constitutional Offices Committee moved a motion for the Legislative Assembly to consider its report on the Miscellaneous (Salaries Conditions upon Suspension) Bill 2020.

Motion seconded and approved

Clause 27	-	approved with amendment;
Clause 28	-	approved with amendment;
Clause 29	-	approved with amendment;
Clause 30	-	approved with amendment;
Clause 31	-	approved with amendment;
Clause 32	-	approved with amendment;
Clause 33	-	approved with amendment
Clause 1 & Short title		amended and approved

Mr Speaker

Gave opportunity to Chairperson of the Standing Order, Electoral, Petitions and Constitutional Offices Committee to say a few words.

Chairperson of the Committee conveyed gratitude to Members of the Committee for the work during the Parliamentary term. Special thanks was conveyed to Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaseeta, a member of the Standing Order Committee (who will be retiring) for his service and work. He then thanked each member individually for their hard work and cooperation. Wished all the Members well for the upcoming elections.

Miscellaneous (Salaries Conditions Upon Suspension) Bill 2020 progressed with amendments

2. METEOROLOGY, GEOSCIENCE AND OZONE SERVICES BILL 2020- consideration in detail

TAFUA Maluelue Tafua, Chairperson of the Infrastructure Sector Committee moved a motion for the Legislative Assembly to consider its report on the Meteorology, Geoscience and Ozone Services Bill 2020.

Motion seconded and approved

Clause 2	-	approved;
Clause 3	-	approved;
Clause 4	-	approved;
Clause 5	-	approved;
Clause 6	-	approved;
Clause 7	-	approved;
Clause 8	-	approved;
Clause 9	-	approved;
Clause 10	-	approved;
Clause 11	-	approved
Clause 12	-	approved;
Clause 13	-	approved;
Clause 14	-	approved;
Clause 15	-	approved;
Clause 16	-	approved;
Clause 17	-	approved;
Clause 18	-	approved;
Clause 19	-	approved;
Clause 20	-	approved;
Clause 21	-	approved;
Clause 22	-	approved.
Clause 1 & Short title		amended and approved

Mr Speaker

Gave opportunity to Chairperson of the Infrastructure Sector Committee to say a few words.

The Chairperson acknowledged the responsible Ministry for proposing this Bill and acknowledged the Members of the Parliamentary Committee for their effort put forth in carrying out their duties.

Meteorology, Geoscience and Ozone Services Bill 2020 progressed with amendments

3. LAND TITLES REGISTRATION AMENDMENT BILL 2021- third reading

Hon TUILAEPa Dr Sailele Malielegaoi, PRIME MINISTER

Hon PM moved a motion for the Bill to be third read.

Motion seconded and approved

 *Land Titles Registration Amendment Bill passed the Legislative Assembly*

4. MISCELLANEOUS (CONDITIONS UPON SUSPENSION) BILL 2021- third reading

Hon TUILAEPa Dr Sailele Malielegaoi, PRIME MINISTER

Hon PM moved a motion for the Bill to be third read.

Motion seconded and approved

 *Miscellaneous (Conditions Upon Suspension) Bill 2021 passed the Legislative Assembly*

5. METEOROLOGY, GEOSCIENCE AND OZONE SERVICES BILL 2020- third reading

Hon TUILAEPa Dr Sailele Malielegaoi, PRIME MINISTER

Hon PM moved a motion for the Bill to be third read.

Motion seconded and approved

 *Meteorology, Geoscience and Ozone Services Bill 2020 passed the Legislative Assembly*

MOTION TO ESTABLISH COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

Pursuant to S.O. 65(o) Hon TUILAEPa Dr Sailele Malielegaoi as Leader of the House moved a motion to establish the following:

The absence of four (4) Members namely Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO Leuatea, Hon FIAME Naomi Mataafa, OLO Fiti Afoa Vaai and FAUMUINA ASI PAULI Wayne Fong during Parliamentary sitting (January 19 – 2 March 2021) are presumed to have breached the Standing Orders in regards to attendance in sittings.

Therefore, an Independent Commission of Inquiry (COI) is established to investigate the following:

- a) To investigate and determine whether the 4 Members (Laauli Polataivao Fosi Schmidt, Fiame Naomi Mataafa, Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai and Faumuina Wayne Fong breached Standing Orders by:
 - i. not attending Parliamentary sittings between the period Jan 19 to 2 March 2021 upon grounds that were not justified (S.O. 23 and S.O.24);
 - ii. not taking into account the times for sittings stipulated under S.O. 24(3) and (4); and

- iii. making defamatory and misleading statements on different media outlets putting Government and Parliament into disrepute (Standing Order 14 and 15)- alleged treacherous act.

- b) Members of the Commission consists of:
 - i. retired Chief Justice;
 - ii. Ombudsman; and an
 - iii. Independent senior lawyer.

The Commission to report back to the Clerk in 3 months upon receipt of the instructions from Parliament. Clerk to report back to the 17th Parliamentary term for proper remedy against the alleged accused members.

Motion seconded and approved

- **Hon TUILAIPA Dr Sailele Malielegaoi, PRIME MINISTER**

The Hon PM acknowledged the prayers of Church leaders for Samoa; acknowledged Samoa and Parliament's efforts to develop Samoa. Samoa is a family, with interconnected roots and Parliamentary proceedings is similar to our Village Councils.

Noted Committee Reports tabled for this Parliamentary terms totalled 362, Annual Report considered, 416 which totals to 798 committee reports. Highlighted a total of 922 legislation and papers (Annual Reports and committee reports) passed and considered by Parliament. Acknowledged the Committees for their tremendous work in scrutinizing the government. Acknowledged Mr Speaker for serving Parliament for 30 years and praised his effort put in as a Member of Parliament. Acknowledged Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta for his long service in Parliament as an opposition and an independent member. Commended his patience over the years. The Hon PM also acknowledged Hon Tuitama for his work towards the Ministry's he was responsible for and commended him for sharing his professional experience as a Doctor during his time as a Minister for Health.

The Hon Minister acknowledged Hon Faasootauloa for his services over the years; Hon PM then conveyed condolences to the wife and family of the deceased Member for Lefaga and Faleaseela, Toleafoa Ken Poutoa. Acknowledged all public servants, CEO's and ACEO's for serving this country. Acknowledged the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, media and Police.

- **Hon LEAUPEPE T. Toleafoa Faafisi, SPEAKER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

Mr Speaker acknowledged all Members of the Legislative Assembly for their cooperation and revering the Chair. Asked the Members forgiveness if anything said in the Chamber was not in line and somewhat disrespectful. Acknowledged the Head of State and Council of Deputy, Chief Justice (CJ), President of the Land and Titles Court and Judges of the Court, Cabinet, Associate Ministers and thanked them for the reverence afforded to the Chair.

Acknowledged the Deputy Speaker for his assistance rendered during the term and conveyed well wishes for the upcoming elections. CEOs of Ministries and Public Enterprises, commended them for the hard work and called upon God's blessings upon them for their work. Acknowledged the Clerk and staff- conveyed gratitude to the Office for the work and accommodating Members during Sittings; Clergy from all denominations, Samoa is dependent on you for your prayers.

Turned to his Constituency and honoured them in their cultural salutations. Conveyed gratitude for their support during his reign as representative of their constituency. Conveyed gratitude to Faleasiu village and clergy- thank you for your support. Whichever I will be useful, I am willing to serve the village. Feels that he should not list out the developments done within the constituency but stated that these should be recognized by the constituents themselves. The basic necessities have been provided. Urged that a Member who will replace him should be one that is brave, kind and loving. Mr Speaker acknowledged the Commissioner and the Ministry of Police for their services and putting their lives on the line for the safety of Samoa.

Proceedings were adjourned at 8:09pm
Parliament will reconvene on the Wednesday 3rd March 2021 at 10:00am