

**DISCLAIMER**

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**Day 15**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

**9:27AM**

**I. GOVERNMENT ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**i. SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2020/2021- second reading & Debate on the Bill cont.**

**i. PESETA Vaifou Tevagaena, ASSOCIATE MINISTER MPMC & MEMBER FOR FAASALELEAGA No.4**

The Hon member commenced by acknowledging the three (3) Arms of government. Acknowledged Samoa in her honorific salutations, the Head of State, members of the Judiciary and the various religious denominations in Samoa. Acknowledged his Constituency in her honorific salutations. Relayed condolences and sympathies for the late MP Toleafoa Vaafusuaga Ken Poutoa.

Conveyed acknowledgement for Mr Speaker and praised him for his stewardship over Parliament during the term. Acknowledged him for keeping the peace between Members during proceedings and wished him well on his retirement.

**Hon TUILAEPA Dr Sailele Malielegaoi, PRIME MINISTER**

*Mr Prime Minister queried Mr Speaker whether the members absent have conveyed that they would not be attending Proceedings. Hon Prime Minister reminded the House that these individuals are being paid and it is an indictment that these individuals receive a salary while not tending to their MP duties.*

**MR SPEAKER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Mr Speaker made note that the following Members conveyed their leave of absence from today's sitting:**

**FAASOOTAULOA Pati Taulapapa, (sick)**  
**NONU Lose Niumata, (sick)**  
**AUMUA Isaia Lameko (attending funeral)**  
**FAUMUINA ASI PAULI Wayne FONG (personal matters)**  
**OLO Fiti Afoa Vaai (sick)**  
**LAAULI POLATAIVAO Leuatea, (attending Party events)**

**Mr Speaker then reiterated that Parliament Proceedings take precedence over any other Proceedings in the country even court proceedings.**

**Hon TUILAEPa Dr Sailele Malielegaoi, PRIME MINISTER**

*The Hon PM noted that Cabinet Ministers are all busy with commitments of which they have put on hold due to proceedings. Emphasized that Cabinets attends and show up regardless of commitments. Commented on statements made by Member for Lotofaga the previous sitting day that the HRPP's stability is owed to the 200,000 funding afforded to Political Parties every financial year and asserted that in the past the HRPP Party had no money to operate, but still had numerous candidates registered under their party - this was in itself proof that with or without funds, the stability of the party was never an issue*

*The Hon PM again stressed the importance of adhering and meeting their commitments as shown in the allegiance they took oath of. Recalled that the past opposition was appropriated funds to build their headquarters. They did not come back irrespective of funding, which illustrates that it is not funding that keeps HRPP in government. Rather, it is demonstrating honesty in managing small things of which vast things will eventually be given to you.*

**PESETA Vaifou Tevagaena, ASSOCIATE MINISTER MPMC & MEMBER FOR FAASALELEAGA No.4 cont.**

The member continued by addressing and acknowledging his fellow Parliamentarians who will not be contesting in the upcoming elections. Acknowledged Hon PM and Cabinet and all Honourable Members of Parliament. Acknowledged numerous developments implemented by the Government of the day for Samoa, new roads, having enough supply of essentials - which reflects a proactive Government who plan for the long term. Emphasized that Samoa does not suffer from a shortage of food which illustrates that Samoa is blessed. Touched upon Government planning to elevate the town area to avoid flooding: The Member agreed and stated that this area is lowlying and is prone to the effects of Climate Change.

The member commended efforts made to develop Samoa's township as he believes the town is reflective of the nation's status (i.e., beautiful, clean, developed). Made specific mention of the Vaisigano bridge and commended this development as he has seen many Samoans living abroad and foreigners complimenting this development.

Addressed his constituency and stated that he continues to request for development for his constituency such as road developments. He agreed with the Member for Faasaleleaga and stated that there are sedimentary deposits in areas of his constituency which raise the level of the river of which then results in flooding for the resort located in his constituency. Noted that the quality of the roads in Savaii are of good standard and suggested that the old tar mix is better to withstand rain and flooding. Suggested that Contractors for road works use the primer mix rather than the asphalt. Recalled his trip to India with Hon Member for Palauli-Le-Falefa and noted that there was an incident where a sinkhole opened up due to the weight on the foundation of the House. Noted that the UTI is a machine used to gauge the strength of buildings & its integrity.

**LEALALEPULE Rimoni Aiafi, ASSOCIATE MINISTER, MCIT & MEMBER FOR FALEATA WEST**

*Acknowledged the Member for bringing this to light however it seems that in doing so, has dis-credited the efforts of the Housing standard division with the Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.*

**PESETA Vaifou Tevagaena, ASSOCIATE MINISTER MPMC & MEMBER FOR FAASALELEAGA No.4 cont.**

Noted that he sought to bring to light strategies to mitigate the effects of Climate change on buildings.

**Proceedings were suspended at 10:43am**

**Proceedings resumed at 11:38am**

**PESETA Vaifou Tevagaena, ASSOCIATE MINISTER MPMC & MEMBER FOR FAASALELEAGA No.4 cont.**

Refuted suggestions by Member of Anoamaa West in regards to Yazaki. Acknowledged NEOC, MOH and frontline workers. Acknowledged MESC. In regards to Asau- The member noted that he had consulted with his constituency in regards to needs of which 2 were identified 1) access roads 2) school building. Acknowledged the assistance of US Aid which funded the school building project.

**Hon TUILAEPA Dr Sailele Malielegaoi, PRIME MINISTER**

*The Hon PM stood to refute claims that Road openings are strategically placed pre-elections as a campaign strategy. Conveyed well wishes to the Members whom excused themselves as sick and stated that their excuses contradict where they actually are.*

**LOAU SOLA Keneti Sio, MINISTER OF MESC**

*The Minister clarified that he does not build school buildings based on relations (referring to the development of the school building for Asau).*

**PESETA Vaifou Tevagaena, ASSOCIATE MINISTER MPMC & MEMBER FOR FAASALELEAGA No.4 cont.**

The Member acknowledged the Minister of Finance for the excellent financial management throughout the parliamentary term, and acknowledged all developments implemented in his constituency. Acknowledged his constituency for affording him the honour and privilege to represent them for 2 consecutive parliamentary terms, and in the same regard acknowledged the Hon PM for selecting him to be his Associate Minister for 2 Parliamentary Terms.

**ii. AFOA Amituanai Faleulu Maui, MEMBER FOR PALAULI WEST**

The Member conveyed acknowledgment to the Almighty GOD, greeted the HOS & his good lady, 3 arms of government and Samoa in her honorific salutations. He also acknowledged the support of his constituency acknowledged the religious denominations in his constituency. The Member recalled past developments during the parliamentary term and expressed support of his constituency for the 3 bills irrespective of what was reported by news outlets.

The Member reiterated that the Prime Minister is not a dictator and HRPP is not a regime as is implied by others. Furthermore, he noted that the Hon PM had his door open to legal officers to point out loopholes in the 3 bills of which there were none. The Member touched upon developments implemented during the parliamentary term for his constituency: Road openings and others. He then acknowledged the Constituency for attending the 2018 independence traditional dance.

**Speakers Ruling**

**Mr Speaker ruled the Member for Palauli to refrain from speaking on the matter towards COVID vaccine as it already been discussed in Parliament.**

**AFOA Amituanai Faleulu Maui, MEMBER FOR PALAULI WEST cont.**

Conveyed apologies to the House and affirmed that all he raises is for the betterment of the Nation. Stated that he is trying to fulfil his duty as the "informal opposition" by posing an alternative. The member began addressing the Samoa Tourism Authority and noted the many goods being produced locally.

**MR SPEAKER**

**As per Standing Orders the Member is not permitted to speak on matters already discussed & a member is prohibited to read out his budget address. Advised the Member to redo his speech.**

**Proceedings were adjourned at 1:05pm**

**Parliament will again reconvene on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 9am.**