

DISCLAIMER

This Report provides a brief of the Proceedings of Parliament on Tuesday 29th January 2019. 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 29th January 2019, you should consult the official Hansard or seek assistance from the Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Tuesday 29 January 2019

DAY 6

9:12am

I. GOVERNMENT ORDERS OF THE DAY

1. TOBACCO CONTROL AMENDMENT BILL 2019 – third reading

The Hon Minister of Health, TUITAMA Talalelei Tuitama moved the third reading of the Tobacco Control Amendment Bill 2019; motion seconded and approved

The Tobacco Control Amendment Bill 2019 was read a third time and passed the Legislative Assembly.

2. EDUCATION AMENDMENT BILL 2019 – third reading

The Hon Prime Minister moved the third reading of the Education Amendment Bill 2019; motion seconded and approved

The Education Amendment Bill 2019 was read a third time and the Bill passed the Legislative Assembly.

3. CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL 2019 – third reading

The Hon Prime Minister moved the third reading of the Constitution Amendment Bill 2019; the motion was carried.

Pursuant to Article 109(1) of the Constitution, whereby any amendment to the Constitution requires a 2/3 majority vote, pursuant to Standing Orders 94(1) the bell was rung and a division was called; **39 were in favour** of the Bill, while **1 Member opposed** the Constitution

Amendment Bill 2019.

The Question was put by Hon Speaker and the ayes were in favour; the Constitution Amendment Bill 2019 was read a third time and will become an Act of Parliament upon assent of the O le Ao o le Malo.

4. ELECTORAL BILL 2019- third reading

The Hon Minister of Justice and Courts Administration moved a motion to have the Electoral Bill 2019 third read; motion seconded and approved.

The Electoral Bill 2019 was read a third time and the Bill passed the Legislative Assembly.

5. ELECTORAL COMMISSION BILL 2019- third reading

The Hon Minister of Justice and Courts Administration moved to have the Electoral Commission Bill third read; motion seconded and approved.

The Electoral Commission Bill 2019 was read a third time and the Bill passed the Legislative Assembly.

6. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT BILL (No.2) 2019- third reading

The Hon Prime Minister moved the third reading of the Constitution Amendment Bill 2019; .

Pursuant to Article 109(1) of the Constitution, whereby any amendment to the Constitution requires a 2/3 majority vote of the House, pursuant to Standing Orders 94(1), the bell was rung and a division was called: **42 Members supported** the Bill while **2 Members opposed** the Constitution Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2019.

The Question was put by Hon Speaker and the ayes were in favour; the Constitution Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2019 was read a third time and passed the Legislative Assembly.

7. Constitutional Amendment Bill (No.3) 2019- third reading

The Hon Prime Minister moved the third reading of the Constitution Amendment Bill; motion seconded and approved.

Pursuant to Article 109(1) of the Constitution, whereby any amendment to the Constitution requires a 2/3 majority vote of the House, pursuant to Standing Orders 94(1), the bell was rung and a division was called: **44 were in favour** of the Bill while **2 Members opposed** the Constitution Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2019.

The Question was put by Hon Speaker and the ayes were in favour; the Constitution Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2019 was read a third time and passed the Legislative Assembly.

8. ELECTORAL CONSTITUENCIES BILL 2019- third reading

The Hon Minister of Justice and Courts Administration moved the third reading of the Electoral Constituency Bill 2019; motion seconded and approved.

The Electoral Constituencies Bill 2019 was read a third time and the Bill passed the Legislative Assembly.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT – Hon Prime Minister

The Hon Prime Minister acknowledged the Parliamentarians for the work during the sitting period and reminded the members to take pride in their role as Parliamentarians. He then called for Committee to continue their role as scrutinizers. He further stated the importance for CEO's to be present during Committee hearings to ensure queries put forth by the Committee members are clarified and answered promptly/accordingly, so as to avoid confusion and disappointment of Members. The Hon PM emphasised the need to be proactive in carrying out their duties.

He reminded Members that this is only the supplementary and there will be more deliberations in June when the main budget is tabled. The name supplementary speaks for itself, its purpose is to allot additional funds to ensure that projects and work planned for this financial year will be completed. All other projects were included in its Main estimates. In regards to the budget, the Hon PM asserted that regardless of how much money the economy generates, there will always be endless needs and wants, hence the importance of seeking more avenues to fund further development projects.

In regards to the Electoral Constituency Bill, the PM placed emphasis that this is due to the ratio (people to MP); He reiterated on the changes in Samoa's Universal Suffrage (deeming women, and untitled men the right to vote). In regards to the importance of customary land and matai titles within families; the Hon PM emphasised the importance of the Land and Titles Bill and Community Law Centre and rhetorically asked "who will do these"? – Stating that this was the responsibility of Government – so as to alleviate the issue of 'Justice Delayed is Justice denied' - stability is important in maintaining the separation of powers in upholding democratic principles.

The Hon Prime Minister moved the adjournment of parliamentary proceedings until Tuesday 19 March 2019; motion seconded and approved.

The Hon Speaker called for the members to guard their Parliamentary and Confidential Papers.

***Proceedings adjourned at 10:37am and
will reconvene at 9am Tuesday 19 March 2019.***