



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

EXECUTIVE ORDER 001 – 2022

**AN ORDER CREATING THE AMERICAN SAMOA CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW
COMMITTEE, DEFINING ITS DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND POWERS AND
APPOINTING THE INITIAL MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: Authority

This executive order is hereby issued in accordance with the powers and authority granted to the Governor by Article IV, Sections 6 and 7 of the Revised Constitution of American Samoa, and the American Samoa Code Annotated, Sections 4.0111 (b) and 4.0302.

WHEREAS, in 1960 the Constitution of American Samoa was said to represent the “greatest step forward” in the political development of the territory since the raising of the American flag on the island of Tutuila in 1900;

WHEREAS, the last Constitutional Convention was in 2010;

WHEREAS, in the process of developing self-government, the people of American Samoa should enjoy certain rights and responsibilities inherent in the representative form of government clearly set forth in the Constitution;

WHEREAS, the Constitution provides an amendment process allowing the people to revisit, improve, or correct it and ensure it continues as a “living document”;

WHEREAS, the purpose of constitutional change must not simply be “*to make new rules for the passing hour, but to state principles for an expanding future*” – principles such as limited government and the bill of rights, popular sovereignty with free and fair elections, fair representation, the separation of powers, checks and balances, judicial independence, the rule of law, self-government, accountability and justice;

WHEREAS, it is prudent and wise to examine American Samoa’s past including its cultural heritage and the body of knowledge from past political status studies, constitutional conventions and historical events;

WHEREAS, the people must determine whether the constitution is in tune with the values of present times and respond to the range of political, economic, social,

environmental, technological, demographic and health conditions including the findings from the 2020 US census and the status of women;

WHEREAS, the people must determine whether and how the commitment to the protection of Samoan land, culture and natural resources remains a compelling interest and worthy goal;

WHEREAS, the constitution building process must engage the people in an authentic, participatory and transparent manner;

NOW THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA, Governor of American Samoa, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Revised Constitution of American Samoa and the American Samoa Code Annotated, hereby execute this order.

Section 3: Duties and Responsibilities

There is herewith created the American Samoa Constitutional Review Committee, which is tasked with the following duties, responsibilities, and powers:

- (a) The Committee shall review the entire Constitution and consider all proposals for revision as submitted through designated meetings, gatherings, and discussions, as held by and through the Political Status, Constitutional Review and Federal Relations Office and the Office of the Governor, as well as reports and requests as submitted by lawfully appointed bodies including but not limited to the Fono, the Judiciary, the political status study committees, local government, and the public.
- (b) The Committee shall keep a journal and records of all public proceedings according to date and subject.
- (c) The Committee is authorized to adopt bylaws which do not conflict with this order or any applicable laws of American Samoa, to govern its own affairs and to aid in executing the tasks which the Committee may undertake in effectuating this Order.
- (d) The first meeting of the Committee shall be Tuesday, February 9, 2022, at 9:00 am at the Governor H. Rex Lee Auditorium.

Section 4: Initial Membership

The following people are appointed as members of the Committee. Each and every member shall be granted an equal and fair opportunity to state their views without fear of being removed or threatened.

Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee

1. Talauega E. V. Ale, Lieutenant Governor, Chairman of the Committee
2. Tauese V. Sunia, Deputy Director of Samoan Affairs, Vice-Chairman of the Committee

Governor's Staff

1. Tuimavave T. Laupola
2. Tapa'au Dr. Dan Aga
3. Earl Mokoma
4. Ufagafa Tulafono
5. Timusa T. Lam Yuen

American Samoa Senate:

1. President Tualo Manaia E. Fruean
2. Senator Soliai Tuipine Fuimaono
3. Senator Tuiagamoia Tavai
4. Senator Satele Lili'o
5. Senator Malaepule S. Moliga

American Samoa House of Representatives

1. Speaker of the House Savali Talavou Ale
2. Representative Alumamalu Ale Sea Filoialii
3. Representative Avagafono Tuavao Vaimaga Maiava
4. Representative Vailiuama Stephen Leasiolagi
5. Representative Manavaalofa Tutuila Manase

Members of the Cabinet

1. Petti Tagipo Matila, Director, Department of Commerce
2. Talauega Samasoni Asaeli, Director, Department of Education
3. Lynn Pulou Alaimalo, Director, Department of Human Resources
4. Muavaefa'atasi J. Suisala, Director, Department of Human and Social Services
5. Lefiti Falelaulii Pese, Commissioner, Department of Public Safety
6. Rosevonne M. Pato, President, American Samoa Community College
7. Ruth S. Matagi, President, Development Bank of American Samoa
8. Sandra King Young, Director, Medicaid State Agency
9. Dr. Salote Aoelua-Fanene, Director, Department of Youth and Women's Affairs
10. Faumuina J. Faumuina, CEO, LBJ Tropical Medical Center
11. Paepaetele Mapu Jamias, Veteran's Affairs Office
12. Fuata Fa'asamisamia Male Tiumalu, Executive Director, Arts Council
13. Mariana Timu-Faiai, Director, Criminal Justice Planning Agency

Clergy

1. Reverend Elder Dr. Siulagi Solomona, Victory Chapel Christian Church
2. Reverend Elder Faaeteete Saifoloi, EFKAS
3. Monsignor Viane Etuale, Monsignor, Roman Catholic Diocese of Samoa-Pago Pago
4. Reverend Elder Faamao Asalele, CCJS
5. Reverend Pa'u Tuavela, Seventh Day Adventist
6. Reverend Asi Tuisalega, American Samoa Methodist Church Synod
7. Elder O. Vincent Haleck, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Members of the Bar

1. Marcellus Talaimalo Uiagalelei, Esq.
2. Aitofiele B. Sunia, Esq.

Federal:

1. Lydia Faleafine-Nomura, Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs

Private Sector:

1. Toaalii Scanlan
2. Olivia Reid

Youth:

1. Nerisa Taua Ve'e
2. Joseph Zodiacal
3. Gabrielle Langkilde
4. Manino Oilau Iseula Reed

Public/Other

1. Fanuatele Dr. Toafa Vaiaga'e
2. Tufaga Dr. John Mapu
3. Alagaimalo Dr. Solomona Tuisamatatele

Women

1. Vaitinasa Dr. Salu Hunkin
2. Reverend Filomena Hunt-Leituala
3. Tauaisafune N. Taifane
4. Patricia Fuiava
5. Moelili'a Seui

Section 5: Support and Funding

Staff and financial support for Committee activities shall be provided through the Office of the Governor and the Constitutional Review Office.

Section 6: Effective Date

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until the conclusion of the Constitutional Convention.

Date:

2/04/22



LEMANU P. S. MAUGA
Governor of American Samoa