

**39<sup>th</sup> LEGISLATURE  
1ST REGULAR SESSION**

**S.B. NO. 39-10  
IN THE SENATE**

19 MARCH 2025

INTRODUCED BY: Sen. Togiola T.A. Tulafono, D-5

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON:

**SUBJECT:**

EXECUTIVE – EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS, AND AGENCIES –  
APPOINTMENT – INVESTIGATIVE PROCEEDINGS

**SUMMARY:**

This bill establishes a standardized and equitable schedule for board members' stipend or allowance, ensuring consistency and uniformity for fairness across all entities that have boards or commissions.

OWN VOTE			LEGISLATIVE VOTE		
YES	NO		YES	NO	DATE
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1ST READING			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	COMMITTEE REPORT			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2ND READING			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3RD READING			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	AMENDED - SEE CALENDAR DATED			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	AMENDED - SEE JOURNAL DATED			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	AMENDED - SEE JOURNAL DATED			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RECOMMITTED			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ORDERED TO LIE			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WITHDRAWN			

1 S.B. NO. 39-10

2 INTRODUCED BY:



3  
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A  
5 STANDARDIZED AND EQUITABLE SCHEDULE FOR AMERICAN SAMOA  
6 GOVERNMENT BOARDS OR COMMISSIONS AND SEMI-AUTONOMOUS  
7 BOARD MEMBERS' STIPEND OR ALLOWANCES, ENSURING  
8 CONSISTENCY AND UNIFORMITY; AMENDING SECTION 4.0302,  
9 A.S.C.A."

10 Preamble

11 WHEREAS, to promote balanced governance and prevent the concentration of  
12 decision-making authority in any one person, such as a director or a  
13 CEO, boards or commissions were created to allow for collective  
14 input, oversight, and approval of decisions to run a department or  
15 semi-autonomous authority; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, the governance, oversight, and strategic decision-making of all boards  
18 or commissions serving the American Samoa Government or semi-  
19 autonomous authorities are essential to the effective functioning and  
20 advancement of its statutory purposes; and

21  
22 WHEREAS, individuals serving on ASG Boards or Commissions and semi-  
23 autonomous boards as members contribute significant time, expertise,  
24 and effort to ensure effective governance that serves the public interest  
25 and promotes organizational well-being; and

26  
27 WHEREAS, it is acknowledged that board or commission membership was never  
28 intended to be a source of financial gain; it was established to create

1 opportunities for residents to serve, share their skill set and  
2 experience, and demonstrate stewardship. Any stipend or allowance  
3 established is meant solely to compensate for the time, effort, and  
4 expertise contributed by board members in fulfilling their duties; and  
5

6 WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to establish a standardized and equitable  
7 schedule for the board members' stipend or allowance, ensuring that  
8 all board members, whether they serve on ASG Boards or a board of a  
9 semi-autonomous authority, receive an equitable stipend or allowance.  
10 This framework will uphold the principles of equity and fiscal  
11 responsibility. A standardized schedule will support retaining and  
12 recruiting qualified individuals willing to serve across all boards and  
13 commissions, enhancing governance and public trust; and  
14

15 WHEREAS, a standardized schedule for stipends or allowances will curtail the  
16 practice of boards that independently create their own allowances or  
17 benefits, thereby preventing self-serving practices. It will also  
18 establish consistency in the stipends and allowances, ensuring  
19 uniformity and fairness across all entities that have boards or  
20 commissions.  
21

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF AMERICAN SAMOA:  
23

24 Sec. 1: Section 4.0302 shall be amended to read:

25 "4.0302 Appointment-Investigative proceedings.

26 (a) The Governor may appoint such boards, commissions, and executive  
27 agencies as he deems advisable.

28 (b) All boards or commissions serving ASG departments or semi-  
29 autonomous authorities shall be subject to a standardized stipend or allowance

1 schedule: \$5000 per annum for board members and \$6000 per annum for the  
2 Chairperson.

3 (c) All boards of directors or commission leadership shall meet at least  
4 four times a year, once every quarter. If a board or commission member misses  
5 more than two meetings in a quarter, he or she shall be removed, and the Governor  
6 shall appoint another individual to fill that vacancy.

7 (d) All other qualifications or requirements for an individual to serve on a  
8 board or to be replaced shall remain intact.

9 ~~(b)~~(e) Any board of investigation which may be appointed shall have full  
10 authority to subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, and report contempt to the High  
11 Court, which shall punish as for contempt in open court. The proceedings and  
12 reports of a board of investigation shall be as designated by the Governor in the  
13 order convening any such board.”

14

15 Sec 2. Effective date.

16 This Act shall become effective immediately upon passage by the  
17 Legislature and approval by the Governor.

18

19

----- END -----

NOFOA'IGA TOLUSEFULU-IVA  
FONO TELE MUAMUA

**PMM NU. 39-10**  
**I LE MAOTA MAUALUGA**

19 MATI 2025

FA'AULUFALEINA E: Senatoa Togiola T.A. Tulafono, Itumalo-5

TU'UINA ATU I LE KOMITI:

**MATA'UPU:**

FAAMALOSI TULAFONO – MATAGALUEGA FAAMALOSI TULAFONO,  
KOMITI FAAFOE MA VAEGA – TOFIGA – TAUALUMAGA O SUESUEGA

**'OTO'OTOGA:**

O lenei pili e faavae ai se faiga mautu ma le talafeagai mo le tau ma alauni o totino o komiti faafoe, ia mautinoa ai ia laugatasia ma tutusa le faiga o vaega uma e i ai a latou komiti faafoe ma komisi.

LANA PALOTA MONI			PALOTAGA A FAIPULE		
IOE	LEAI		IOE	LEAI	ASO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FAITAUGA MUAMUA			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RIPOTI A LE KOMITI			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FAITAUGA FA'ALUA			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FAITAUGA FA'ATOLU			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SUI – VA'AI ASO I LE KALENA			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SUI – VA'AI ASO TALA 'OTO'OTO			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SUI – VA'AI ASO TALA 'OTO'OTO			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TU'U ATU LE ISI KOMITI			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FA'ATONU E FA'ATA'ATIA			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TOE TAOFI			

1 P.M.M. NU. 39-10

2 FAAULUFALEINA E:



3  
4 O SE PILI MO SE TULAFONO UA FAAIGOAINA: “O SE TULAFONO E FAAVAE  
5 AI SE FAIGA MAUTU MA LE TALAFEAGAI O TAUI MA ALAUNI O TOTINO O  
6 KOMITI FAAFOE POO KOMISI A PULEGA, IA MAUTINOA AI IA LAUGATASIA  
7 MA TUTUSA UMA O LE FAIGA O IA VAEGA, SUIA AI MAGA 4.0302 TTAS.”  
8

9 Faatomuaga:

10 TALUAI, ina ia paleni lelei pulega ma vaoia ai le tuutasi o le faia o faaiuga i se tagata  
11 e toatasi e pei o se faatonusili poo se Ofisa Sili (CEO), na fausia ai komiti  
12 faafoe poo komisi ina ia faataga ai ni manatu tuufaatasi, le vaaiga, ma le  
13 faamaonia o faaiuga e faagaoioia ai se matagaluega poo se pulega a le  
14 malo; ma  
15

16 TALUAI, e taua le pule, o le vaaiga ma le faia o faaiuga taua a komiti faafoe uma poo  
17 komisi e tautuaina le Malo o Amerika Samoa poo pulega a le malo mo le  
18 lelei o le faagasologa ma le agai i luma o vaega ia ia latou matafaioi  
19 faaletulafono; ma  
20

21 TALUAI, o tagata e galulue e fai ma totino o Komiti Faafoe ma Komisi o pulega a le  
22 malo e tuuina atu lo latou taimi taua, o le tomai, ma le taumafai ina ia  
23 mautinoa ai pulega lelei aua le tautuaina o le lautele ma ia manuia ai le  
24 galuega; ma  
25

26 TALUAI, e moni o totino o komiti faafoe ma komisi sa leai lava se manatu o se  
27 puna’oa; sa faavaeina ina ia fausia ai ni avanoa mo tagatanuu e auauna ai,  
28 faasoa mai lo latou tomai ma le tomai masani ma faaalua lo latou silafia i le  
29 faafoega o galuega. Soo se tauai poo se alauni e faavaeina, o lona

1 faamoemoe atoa lava, ina ia tauia ai lo latou taimi, o le taumafaiga, ma le  
2 tomai faapitoa o totino i le faataunuuina o latou tiute; ma

3  
4 TALUAI, o le manatu mo le lelei o le lautele e faavae ai se faiga tutusa ma le  
5 talafeagai mo tauai poo alauni, ia mautinoa o totino uma o komiti faafoe, po  
6 o ni Komiti Faafoe a le Malo po o se komiti faafoe a se pulega, e maua so  
7 latou tauai tutusa poo se alauni. O le faavaa lea, o le a taofia ai manatu  
8 tausili o faiga tutusa i le vaaia o mea tau tupe. O se faiga laugatasia o le a  
9 lagolagoina ai le faatumauina pea ma le sailia o tagata agavaa e naunau e  
10 tautua i komiti faafoe uma ma komisi, e faatupu ai foi pulega lelei ma le  
11 faatuatuaga o le lautele; ma

12  
13 TALUAI, o se faiga tutusa e laugatasia ai tauai poo alauni o le a taofia ai le masani a  
14 komiti faafoe e faia ai a latou lava alauni poo penefiti ma e taofia ai ai faiga  
15 e lelei ai lava le tagata ia. O le a faavae ai foi le laugatasia o tauai ma alauni,  
16 faamautinoa ai le laina e tutusa ai vaega uma e i ai a latou komiti faafoe poo  
17 komisi.

18  
19 IA FAATULAFONOINA E LE FONOFAITULAFONO O AMERIKA SAMOA:

20  
21 Maga 1. 4.0302 ua suia nei e faitauina faapea:

22 “4.0302 Tofiga-Taualumaga o suesuega

23 (a) E mafai ona tofisa e le Kovana komiti faafoe, komisi ma vaega a le  
24 faamalosia tulafono e finagalo ai.

25 (e) O komiti faafoe uma poo komisi e tautuaina matagaluega a le Malo poo  
26 pulega e tutusa uma le faiga o tauai poo alauni e faapenei: \$5000 i le tausaga mo totino o  
27 komiti faafoe ae \$6000 i le tausaga mo le Taitaifono.

