Manuia le Aso o le Fu’a
Tutuila ma Manu‘a

SAMOA MUAMUA LE ATUA

Manuia le Selauluasefulu Tausaga!

Fa’amanaatunina o le Sisiina a’e o le
Tagāvai o le Mālō Tele o le Iunaite Setete
i Laufanua o Amerika Samoa

Aperila 17, 2020
Malaeolatatu, Fagatogo
Amerika Samoa
TALUA'I, o tagata Samoa na ulu’a’i nofo’i nei atumotu e fai ma aiga o latou tua’ā i le tele o seneturi a’o lumana’i ai le o’o mai o ali’i papa’e e o’o mai i le asō; ma
TALUA'I, o le Feagaiga i Perelini i le 1899, i le va o le Iunaite Setete, Peretania Tele ma Siamani lea na vaevaeina ai atumotu o Samoa; ma
TALUA'I, o lea lava feagaiga na talosagaina ai e le Mālō o le Iunaite Setete le motu o Tutuila ma isi uma motu o Samoa i le itu i Sasa’e;” ma
TALUA'I, lea feagaiga na pasiaaina e le Senate a le Iunaite Setete ia Fepuari 19, 1929; ma
TALUA'I, o le tagāvai a le Iunaite Setete na nisiina a’e i Sogelau, o si tama’i mati’e e i luga a’e o le uafu fou ma le nofoaga ‘autū e taula ai va’a; ma
TALUA'I, na tu’uina atu e ali’i na faipule o Tutuila, le tu’uina atu o motu o Tutuila ma Aunu’u “fa’atasi ai ma aiā tatau fa’ale-tulafono” i le Mālō o le Iunaite Setete i Pago Pago ia Aperila 17, 1900; ma
TALUA'I, o le Tuimanua, fa’atasi ai ma ali’i na faipule o Manu’a lea na tu’uina atu e le Mālō o le Iunaite Setete o Amerika motu o Manu’a i le nofoaga ua ta’ua i le Fale’ula i Ta’u i le aso 14 o Iulai i le 1904; ma
TALUA'I, o le “Feagaiga o Maliliega” na motu o Tutuila ma Manu’a na talia aloa’ia, pasiaina ma tamauina lelei i le tulafono a le Konekeresi i le 1929 (Tulafono 48 U.S.C. 1661); ma
TALUA'I, o le aiā tatau fa’ale-tulafono a le Iunaite Setete ia Amerika Samoa na fa’alaua’itele atu e le motu o Swains ma ‘avea ai o se totino o Amerika Samoa i lalo lava o le tulafono e tasi o le 1929 (Tulafono 48 U.S.C. 1662); ma
TALUA'I, lea aiā tatau fa’ale-tulafono o le 1900 e fa’aioa ai le “Mālō o le Iunaite Setete lona fa’aaloalo ma lana puipuiga o aiā tatau o tagata uma o lo’o nonofo i Tutuila atoa ai ma o latou fanua ma isi uma a latou measina;” ma
TALUA'I, o le aiā tatau fa’ale-tulafono o le 1904, o lo’o fa’aioa ai le “aiā tatau o ali’i na faipule o nu’u ta’itasi, atoa ai ma tagata uma lo latou nauanauta iha i a latou measina e tusa ai ma fa’aave o a la latou aganu’u”; ma
TALUA'I, ona le manuafatufatufa i le Sisigā Fu’u 2020, “SAMOA MUAMUA LE ATUA,” ia fa’alaua’ioa ati atu ai i atunu’u ma mālō uma ma ia teu mau i finagalo o tagataunu’u uma o Tutuila, Aunu’u, Manu’a ma Swains, o le tamāoaga ua tato maua mai i le Mālō Tele o Amerika, na afua mai i le fofa’i māmao a taa’ā ma mātua u afua fa’atea mai tia; ma
TALUA'I, o lea fofa’i ma le uta māmao a tua’ā ma mātua, na atina’e mai i le fa’au’uga mana na liligiga i le Atua Mamana i luga ia te i latou a’o avea ai ma ta’ita’i e tapenaina le ala ma se lumana’i manuia o tatou tagata; ma
TALUA'I, ona le manuafatufatufa i le Sisigā Fu’u, “SAMOA MUAMUA LE ATUA,” ia fa’alaua’ioa atilai atu ai i atunu’u ma mālō uma ma ia teu mau i finagalo o tagataunu’u uma o Tutuila, Aunu’u, Manu’a ma Swains, o le tamāoaga ua tato maua mai i le Mālō Tele o Amerika, na afua mai i le fofa’i māmao a taa’ā ma mātua u afua fa’atea mai tia; ma
TALUA'I, ona le Sisigā Fu’u a mulimuli lenci a lenci nofo’a’iga, e fia fa’aioa ai ma le loto fa’aetai sa mā’ua molimau ma le Afiōga i Lemanu ma Ta’ita’i uma o lenci Faigamālō i le maualauga o le afou o le Atua Mamana i a tatou taumafiaga uma; ma
TALUA'I, o o’u mo’omo’o’oga, ia Vi’ia ma Fa’amanūnia le suafa mamalu o le Atua Mamana i se tautua fa’atauva’a ua mafai, ma le fa’amoemoe maualauga ua fa’amalieina le mamalu o le atunu’u.
O LE MEA LEA, i le fa’amamaluina o sea mea o le tala fa’asolopito, ma le fa’amanūnia o le manuafatufa i le lenci taisaga, “SAMOA MUAMUA LE ATUA”, O A’U O LOLO MATALASI MOLIGA, Kovana o Amerika Samoa, ua ou poloa’iina ai le fa’amanuina o le Aso o le Sisigā Fu’u a Amerika Samoa i le Aso Faraile, Aperila 17, 2020, mo sauniga tatau uma, e fa’amanutui ai le sisiina a’e o le Tagāvai o le Iunaite Setete o Amerika i Tutuila, Amerika Samoa.
IA FAI MA MOLIMAU, ua ou sainilmaima ma fa’aiolagaina, i le fa’amau fa’aiolaga o le Mālō o Amerika Samoa i le aso 14 o Aperila, i le tausaga lenci o le Ali’i, lua afe lua sefulu.

LOLO MATALASI MOLIGA
Kovana o Amerika Samoa
2020 Flag Day PROCLAMATION

“Samoa Muamua le Atua”

WHEREAS, the Samoan people have inhabited these islands as their ancestral home for centuries prior to Western contact and continuously to the present; and

WHEREAS, the Berlin Treaty of 1899 between the United States, England and Germany partitioned the Samoan archipelago; and

WHEREAS, the same treaty effectively granted the United States Government claim “to the island of Tutuila and all other islands of the Samoan group east …”; and

WHEREAS, the treaty was ratified by the United States Senate on February 19, 1900; and

WHEREAS, the US flag was raised on Sogelau in Fagatogo, Tutuila; and

WHEREAS, chiefs of Tutuila did cede, transfer and yield the islands of Tutuila and Aunu’u “together with all sovereign rights” to the Government of the United States at Pago Pago on April 17, 1900; and

WHEREAS, the Tuimanu’a and chiefs of Manu’a did cede unto the Government of the United States of America the islands of the Manu’a group at the place of Faleula in Ta’u on the 14th day of July in 1904; and

WHEREAS, the “Deeds of Cession” of the islands of Tutuila and Manu’a were accepted, ratified, and confirmed by an Act of Congress in 1929 (Title 48 U.S.C. §§ 1661); and

WHEREAS, the sovereignty of the United States over American Samoa was extended over Swains Island and made a part of American Samoa by the same Act of Congress in 1929 (Title 48 U.S.C. §1662); and

WHEREAS, the 1900 cession states the “Government of the United States of America shall respect and protect the individual rights of all people dwelling in Tutuila to their lands and other property…”; and

WHEREAS, the 1904 cession states the “rights of the Chiefs in each village and of all people concerning their property according to their customs shall be recognized”; and

WHEREAS, the theme for the 2020 Flag Day is “SAMOA MUAMUA LE ATUA” or “SAMOA GOD IS FIRST.”

NOW THEREFORE, in honor of these historical events, and in celebration of this year’s theme, “SAMOA MUAMUA LE ATUA”, I, LOLO MATALASI MOLIGA, Governor of American Samoa, proclaim that the American Samoa Flag Day will be celebrated on Friday, April 17, 2020, for the observance of appropriate ceremonies, commemorating the raising of the Flag of the United States of American over Tutuila, American Samoa.

I further call upon the government and the people of American Samoa to remember in their prayers those who are sick with the Coronavirus, that they may they regain their strength and health, and for nations to work together and neighbors to help one another.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereby affix my signature and seal of the Government of American Samoa on this 14th day of April, in the year of our Lord, two thousand twenty.

LOLO MATALASI MOLIGA
Governor of American Samoa
I stand before all of you today, in unfamiliar circumstances, because for the last 119 years we have celebrated Flag Day with fanfare, jubilation, and with great happiness for on April 17, 1900 and July 16, 1904, Tutuila and Manu’a respectively entered into Treaties of Cessions with the United States of America, which effectively transformed the lives of our people then, today, and tomorrow, led by our Government Motto of “Let God Be First”.

This 120th Flag Day is dramatically different in the way that it is being celebrated, compared to the colorful history of this life changing event in which we annually praise the wisdom of our forefathers and reaffirm our sense of patriotism and gratefulness to the United States of America for continuing to honor its pledges to protect the lives of the people of American Samoa along with their culture and way of life.

This 120th Flag Day will be uniquely recorded in our history because those participating in the Flag Raising Ceremony today, are only the Leaders of our Territory, however, it will not lessen the dignity and majesty of this event with regard to the essence of its meaning and its significance to each resident of the Territory of American Samoa.

As we raise our Flags today, we will raise with them our hopes, our gratitude, and our gratefulness, along with our collective prayers beseeching God to look, with mercy and love, over the people of the United States and to bring an end to this deadly Coronavirus disease.

In spite of the awesome threat of death posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the thousands of lives lost, we see the resilience of the human spirit emerging amidst great adversity by their resolute continue the fight to eradicate this dreadful disease.

I see this same spirit prevalent among our people in spite harsh changes which have been imposed on your lives and the great discomforts that we are all experiencing together because of our collective commitment and resolve not to lose one precious life to the Coronavirus. I thank all of you, on behalf of our leaders, for tolerating these severe changes to your lives. Because of your efforts, American Samoa continues to be blessed by still not recording one confirmed Coronavirus Case. God be praised.

Trying to strike a balance between protecting the lives of our people and safeguarding our economy from spiraling to a state of calamity, was and continues to be the epic challenge which keeps me up at night. The preciousness of life will always take precedence over the economy, but as leaders of our government, we are required to look at the big picture and to make sure that we don’t advance one issue at the peril of the other. So, we want to recognize and thank our business community for enduring the actions which have severely eroded your earning capacity.

Health experts have determined that the best way to stop or slow the spread of the coronavirus is by social distancing --- a concept that goes against our culture and our religious practices. It is our current most difficult challenge however, with the gracious and generous help from Religious Leaders, this challenge has been lessened and I humbly ask that this resolve needs to be maintained if we are to be successful in our efforts to stop the entry of the Coronavirus into our home.

Amidst the multitude of challenges and worries which have been brought to bear on us leaders during these difficult times, it is the long-term consequences of our current actions, as we dedicate ourselves to continue the battle against this silent and nonselective enemy. I am very concerned about what we are doing on the development of our young people because we can resurrect our economy but we cannot afford to lose a generation of leaders, thus, we thank our private and public educational leadership for continuing to ensure that our children continue their education during these very difficult times.

Our culture and our way of life defines our identity and who we are and our principles of sharing and reciprocation have set our culture apart from others with a village system that enforces these precepts. Our successes have been attributed in part to our village system providing enforcement support to government programs dedicated to improve the lives of our people. On behalf of our government leaders, I thank the Department of Local Government and the village leaders, along with our Department of Public Safety for doing your part to enforce the need for social distancing which will guarantee the containment in the spread of the Coronavirus.

We ache and we hurt along with our entire Nation and country over the loss of so many Americans and many are still fighting a war against COVID-19. We are heartsick and deeply concerned about what we are doing on the development of our young people because we can resurrect our economy but we cannot afford to lose a generation of leaders, thus, we thank our private and public educational leadership for continuing to ensure that our children continue their education during these very difficult times.

This is my last Flag Day and while I would have liked to celebrate it with spirited, jubilant, and joyful activities, I am humbled by this last chance granted to me, by God, to end my tenure of service to my beloved people of Tutuila and Manu’a. I pray that I will live up to this challenge. I find great comfort and solace in the fact that God has also blessed me and our territory with the Leadership of Lieutenant Governor Lemanu Peleti Palepoi Sialega Mauga, Senate President Gaotete Pala’te Tofau, Speaker of the House Savali Talavou Ale, Chief Justice Lealalai F. Michael Kruse, Congresswoman Aumua Amata Radewagen, and Secretary of Samoan Affairs Mauga Tasi Asuega, who will ensure that we will continue to be victorious in our efforts to stop the Coronavirus from entering our territory.

At the onset of the Lolo-Lemanu Administration, we opted to defy status quo defined by the historical practice of limiting the appointment of cabinet members to only those who supported our campaign. Instead, we advertised all directorship positions, and we made our decision based on the most qualified candidate and not on whether he or she was a Lolo-Lemanu supporter.

We are very proud of this decision because it allowed us to bring together the best minds and dedicated hearts to help Lemanu and I advance our vision, rooted simply to improve the lives of our people and to give them hope in the future.

I take this opportunity to publicly express our deepest gratitude and gratefulness to the cabinet for all the sacrifices that you have made, some at the cost of their lives, to help Lemanu and I achieve our campaign promises to our people that we will make their lives better.

Cynthia & our children, together with Lieutenant Governor Lemanu Mauga, Ella and their family, join me in wishing all of you a wonderful Flag Day.

Our Government has been founded on God and we have placed Him before everything else and in Him we have placed all our hopes and dreams; our fate is in His Hands.

God Bless the United States of America and God Bless the Territory of American Samoa.

HAPPY 120TH FLAG DAY

[Lolo Matalasi Moliga]
Governor of American Samoa
Fa’amanatuina o le Sisiina a’e o le Tagāvai o le Mālō Tele o le Iunaite Setete i Laufanua o Amerika Samoa
Aso Faraile, Aperila 17, 2020

6:00AM: Taunu’u Aloa’i Ta’ita’i o le Faigāmālō ma le Ta’ita’i Sauniga
Susuga Fa’aetete Saifoloi, Ta’ita’ifono Ekalesia Fa’apotopotoga Kerisiano o Amerika Samoa.
Afioga Savali Talavou Ale, Fofoga Fetalai o le Maōta o Sui
Afioga Gaoteote Pala’ie Tofau, Peresetene o le Senate
Afioga Lealaialoa F. Michael Kruse, Fa’amasino Sili

6:30AM: Taunu’u Aloa’i le Afioga i le Ao Mamalu o le Mālō Amerika Samoa
Afioga i le Kovana Lolo Matalasi Moliga ma le Tinā o le Atunu’u Cynthia Malala Moliga.

**Polokalame o le Aso**

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<td>Saunoaga a le Ao Mamalu o le Mālō o Tutuila ma Manu’a</td>
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<td>Tatalo Fa’aiu</td>
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A ‘ou tū i le Mauga-O-Ali‘i ma ‘ou tepa i atumauga lanulau‘ava o le motu nei o Tutuila ma fa‘asifo le va‘ai i le vaifagaloa, ona manino lea o la‘u va‘ai i le aulelei ma le matagofie o le Atua foafoa. O le Atua lea na sa‘afi ai le fai salamo, “Ia vi‘ia Lona suafa ona o Lona Alofa ma Lona Fa‘amaoni."

A tau loa lagona i le Alofa o le Atua, ona oge lea i manatu ma mativa i mafaufuga e fa‘amatala ai, ae o le tūvæe o la tatou savaliga umi mai le sisigā fu‘a o lēna tausaga se‘ia pā‘ia mai lēna lava fa‘amanatuga i lenei tausaga i lo tatou fa‘afeagai pea ma fa‘afitauli o le soifuaga. O fa‘alavelave fa‘alenatura ma le fa‘amalumalu mai o fa‘ama‘i ogaogā, ua lava lēna e fa‘amatala ai le fāʻau ma soloi o le Alofa fa‘asoa o le Atua ia Tutuila ma Manu‘a ma le tatou Faigamālō. Ua moni le mau a tatou tua‘ā ma mātua, “Ia faʻamuamua le Atua i mea uma.” O loʻu talitonuga, o le punavaiola lēna o loʻo tafe mai ai pea fa‘amanatuga ma fa‘aloaina ai lo tatou mālō ma o tatou tagata. O le galuega tatalo a le ‘Au Ositaualaga ma le tapua‘īga mamana a le ‘au matutua o isi ia vaega tāua o lo tatou soifuaga fa‘asamoa e ao ina tatou ‘ave pea i ai le fa‘amuamua ma le fa‘amamafa.

Aʻo tatou alo atu mo le fa‘amanatuga o le 120 tausaga o le tuʻuina atu o tatou motu e o tatou tua‘ā i le leoleoga a le Mālō Tele o Amerika, e ao lava ina la tatou manatua, ia fa‘amuamua pea o le Atua i mea uma tatou te faia. E faʻaleo atu ai i le agaga faʻafetai mai ia i māʻua ma Lemanu i taʻitaʻi o tafā tutusa e tolu o le faigamālō a Tutuila ma Manu‘a, ona o la outou taʻitaʻiga manuia. Faʻafetai i le faʻa‘ita‘i o le Mālō Faʻaloifoale ma Tupu ma Eʻe e le atunuu u i le latou foʻi pito laʻau tāua. Faʻasili se faʻafetai i le mamalu o le Kapeneta ma tagata faigaufega o le Mālō o Amerika Samoa; ua mālō galulue, faʻafetai le atinaʻe.

Ua manino le vaʻai i le matagofie o le Atua ma inu malie le atunuu i ana faʻamanuiga ona o lā outou sa‘ili mālō. O moʻomoʻoga o loʻu agaga ia tatou maua pea le vitutu o le onosaʻi e faʻaaauai ai pea la tatou ‘auʻaunaga i lo tatou atunuu. I le faʻamanatuga o le 120 tausaga, ia tatou tatalo pea i le Atua mamana ina ia faʻaifoa pea ana faʻamanuiga ma lana leoleoga i o tatou motu faʻapei o le faʻamanuiga na ofoina atu i tagata Israelei le i lēna agaga tuai, o loʻo tāʻua i le tūi o Numerua, “Ia faʻamuamua oe e le Alii, ma Ia na taua ia te oe; ia faʻamalamalamaaina e le Alii ona fofoga i luga ia te oe ma Alofa atua ia te oe; ia faʻasaga mai e le Alii i ona fofoga ia te oe ma tuʻuina atu ia te oe le manuia.

Ia manuia Amerika Samoa ma ona tagata nuʻu uma; ia maua pea so māʻua malosi ma Lemanu e ‘auʻaunaina ai lo outou mamalu i aso o totoe o le ma nofoaʻīga ma faʻatumau ai pea le mau momoli, “Amerika Samoa, Muamua le Atua”

Soifua Manuia oe Amerika Samoa,

LOLO MATALASI MOLIGA
Kovana o Amerika Samoa