

# U.S. CONGRESSMAN ENI F. H. FALEOMAVAEGA

## REPORTS TO THE PEOPLE

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### Faleomavaega Holds Third Highest Minority Seat on House Resources Committee

American Samoa now holds the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest ranking minority seat on the House Committee on Resources which has responsibility for all matters regarding American Samoa.

For the past 14 years, I have been honored to serve as your Congressman and I am pleased that American Samoa now holds the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest ranking minority seat on the House Committee on Resources as a result of this seniority.

The House Committee on Resources is responsible for all matters regarding the insular areas, and this includes funding for American Samoa. For many years, there have been many attempts to cut American Samoa's funding but for the past 14 years Resources Committee members have been supportive of my efforts

to save American Samoa's funding.

To this day, American Samoa continues to be the only insular area that receives

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*Congressman Eni F.H. Faleomavaega took the oath of office during the opening ceremony of the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress in the United States Capitol. It is Faleomavaega's 8<sup>th</sup> term as representative of American Samoa in the United States House of Representatives. Administering the oath was Speaker J. Dennis Hastert.*

### Faleomavaega Elected Top Minority Leader on House International Relations Subcommittee on Asia and Pacific

Faleomavaega has been selected by his party to serve as the highest minority member on the House Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific. The Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific has broad responsibility over U.S. foreign policy with Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, Cambodia, China, Brunei, Cook Islands, Fiji, New Caledonia/French Polynesia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, North Korea, South Korea, Micronesia, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, Niue, New

Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia (Far Eastern Policy), Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Taiwan.

This region is critical to U.S. interests. Nearly 60-percent of the world's population lives in the Asia Pacific region, including the people of American Samoa. The world's six largest armed forces are also situated throughout the region. China's

*continued on page 3*

### Numera Tolu Faleomavaega i le Komiti Tau i Ala Manuia i le Itu Agai

Ua maua nei e Amerika Samoa le nofoa numera tolu i le Itu Agai i le Komiti Tau i Ala Manuia a le Maota o Sui, le komiti lea o loo va'aia tulaga uma e a'afia ai Amerika Samoa.

I le 14-tausaga ua tuana'i, o loo outou tusi'a'ao pea ia te a'u e avea ma o outou fofoga i le Konekeresi. O na o le lasi o la outou fa'aeaea ma le tele o tausaga o la'u tautua, ua mafai ai ona maua e Amerika Samoa le nofoa lona tolu i le Itu Agai i le Komiti Tau i Ala Manuia.

O le Komiti Tau i Ala Manuia a le Maota o Sui e gafataulima ma tulaga uma tau i atumotu, e aofia ai tulaga tau tupe mo Amerika Samoa. Ua tele tausaga o taumafai pea ni isi ina ia vaea pe fa'aititia tupe mo Amerika Samoa, ae peita'i i le 14 tausaga ua tuana'i, o lo'o sapaia pea e lenei komiti lo'u tulaga ina ia faatumauina ma fa'aauau pea le maualuga o fesoasoani tau tupe o lo'o iai nei mo Amerika Samoa.

E o'o mai i le aso nei, e

*fa'aauau i le itulau 2*

### Numera Tasi Faleomavaega i le Soakomiti mo Asia ma le Pasefika i le Komiti mo le Va Fealoa'i ma Malo i Fafo

Ua filifilia Faleomavaega e le Itu Agai e avea ma sui aupito maualuga i le Soakomiti mo Asia ma le Pasefika a le Maota o Sui. O le soakomiti lenei mo Asia ma le Pasefika e fa'afueina tulaga uma tau i mata'upu fai i le va o le Iunaite Setete ma Malo i fafo e aofia ai Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Buma, Cambodia, China, Brunei, Cook Island, Fiji, New Caledonia/French Polynesia, India, Indonesia, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Micronesia, Mongolia,

Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, Niue, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, ma Taiwan.

E taua tele lenei vaega o le lalolagi i fuafuaga lumana'i a le Iunaite Setete. Pe tusa ma le 60-pasene o tagata soifua uma o le lalolagi o lo'o soifua i Asia ma le Pasefika, e aofia ai tatou i Amerika Samoa. O vaega'au aupito tetele e 6 i le

*fa'aauau i le itulau 3*

# Faleomavaega Holds Third Highest Minority Seat on Resources

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funding for the operations of its government and I am hopeful that in the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress our Republican and Democratic friends will continue to support our needs. The House Committee on Resources

Given that American Samoa's economy is more than 80% dependent, either directly or indirectly, on the tuna fishing and processing industries, I am very pleased to have the opportunity to once again



*Congressman Faleomavaega, Mr. Don Binotto, President and Managing Director of StarKist Seafood and Mr. David Burney, Executive Director of the U.S. Tuna Foundation met to discuss IRS Section 936 and the future of American Samoa's canned tuna industry. Faleomavaega has been supportive of making permanent or extend IRS Section 936 benefits to our canneries to encourage economic growth and development in the territory.*

will play a pivotal role in this process.

In fact, all matters pertaining to American Samoa and the other insular areas are handled by the full Committee on Resources. Put another way, there is no Subcommittee on Insular Affairs and there is no Subcommittee on Territories. All matters specifically pertaining to American Samoa are handled by the full Committee on Resources. American Samoa now holds the 3rd most senior minority seat on this Committee.

The House Committee on Resources is made up of five Subcommittees. These Subcommittees are Fisheries, Energy, National Parks, Forests, and Water. In addition to my assignment on the full Committee on Resources, I will also be serving on the Subcommittee on Energy and the Subcommittee on Fisheries.

serve on the Fisheries Subcommittee. The Fisheries Subcommittee has responsibility for commercial fisheries, international fisheries agreements, aquaculture, seafood safety and fisheries promotion. The Fisheries Subcommittee also works with the National Sea Grant College program.

As a result of serving in this subcommittee last year, we were able to successfully establish a Sea Grant presence and an aquaculture project in American Samoa and it is still hoped that this year there will be new opportunities to expand our tilapia and giant clam projects.

As Congress begins its new session, I want to once more thank you for your prayers. These are historic times for American Samoa. Together we are making a difference and, as always, I will do my best to serve your needs.

# Numera Tolu Faleomavaega i le Komiti Tau i Ala Manuia i le Itu Agai

*fa'aauau mai i le itulau 1*

na o Amerika Samoa lava le atumotu o lo'o fa'aauau pea lona fa'atupeina e le Malo Tele i tulaga o le fa'agaoiioina o lona Malo ma ou te talosia ia fa'apena fo'i i lenei nofoa'iga ina ia tumau pea le lagolagosua a tatou uo Ripapelikana fa'apea le Temokarati aua mana'oga o si o tatou atunu'u. E matua fa'atauaina lava le Komiti Tau i Ala Manuia a le Maota o Sui i lenei fa'amoemoe.

O le tulaga moni, o mataupu uma lava e tau ia Amerika Samoa fa'apea ma isi atumotu uma o le Iunaite Setete e i lalo lea o le va'aiga a le Komiti Aoa po'o le Komiti Autu Tau i Ala Manuia. I se tasi fa'aupuga, e leai se soakomiti fa'apitoa mo atumotu, e leai fo'i se soakomiti fa'apitoa mo teritori. O mataupu uma lava e patino pe fa'atatau tonu ia Amerika Samoa e fa'afue lea e le Komiti Aoa Tau i Ala Manuia. O na o lo outou fa'atuatua pea o a'u fa'atasi ma le tele o tausaga o o'u galue pea i le Konekeresi lea ua maua ai e Amerika Samoa le nofoa numera tolu i lea komiti i le Itu Agai.

O le Komiti Aoa Tau i Ala Manuia a le Maota o Sui e iai ona soakomiti e lima. O nei soakomiti e aofia ai le Soakomiti Tau i Faigafaiva, Eneti, Laufanua Fa'asaoina, Vaomatua, fa'apea le Vai. E le gata la i o'u tiute masani i totonu o le komiti aoao, ae ua filifilia fo'i a'u e avefa ma sui i le Soakomiti Tau i le Eneti, ma le Soakomiti Tau i Faigafaiva.

Talu ai ona e sili atu ma le 80-pasene o le tamaoiga lautele o le tatou Malo o Amerika Samoa e fa'alagolago i tulaga tau i faiga faiva po'o isi fo'i galuega e feso'ota'i ma faiga faiva po'o i'a, ua ou fiafia ai lava ina ua toe maua le avanoa ou te toe galue ai i totonu o le Soakomiti Tau i Faigafaiva. O le nei soakomiti e va'aia tulaga uma tau i faiga faiva e fuafua mo fefa'ataua'iga,

malilie ma Malo ese'ese o le lalolagi i tulaga tau i faiga faiva, atina'e tau i i'a taus, puipuiga mo le saogalemu o taumafa tau i'a, fa'apea le fa'alaualeina o le malamalama'aga lautele o tagata i mataupu tau i'a. O le nei fo'i Soakomiti Tau i Faigafaiva e galulue felagolagoma'i ma le polokalame a le Malo Tele e ta'ua o le National Sea Grant College program.

Talu ai o na sa avefa a'u ma se tasi o sui totino i totonu o lea soakomiti i le tausaga fa'ato'a mavae atu, sa faigofie ai ona fa'atino se tasi o a'u taumafaiga ma fa'atuina ai le polokalame e ta'ua o le "Sea Grant" ma se polokalame tau i i'a taus (aquaculture) i Amerika Samoa, ma o lo'o iai pea lo'u fa'amoemoe ina ia sailia ni isi auale fou e fa'alaualeina ai a tatou atina'e tau i i'a tilapia fa'apea a tatou atina'e tau i faisua.

A o alo atu le Konekeresi mo taualumaga tau amata o lenei nofoa'iga fou, ou te toe fa'atalosagaina lo outou sapaapaia pea o lo'u nei tagata ae le gata i lea, a o a outou talosaga fai pea ina ia manuia fuafuaga o lo'o o'u taumafai atu iai aua se manuia o si o tatou atunu'u. O ni vaitau iloga nei ua tatou iai. Ma, o le tatou galulue fa'atasi o le a fa'amanuiaina ai ni isi o tatou fa'amoemoega. E pei lava o tulaga masani i tausaga ua mavae atu, ou te matua galue i lo'u malosi atoatoa ma ou taumafai ina ia fa'ataunu'uina fa'amoemoega ma mana'oga o le tatou atunu'u.



*With the start of the new Congress, Faleomavaega and Senator Daniel Inouye met to discuss critical issues now affecting American Samoa. Senator Inouye has been a major ally and supporter of the people of American Samoa in the U.S. Senate.*

# Faleomavaega is Top Minority Leader on Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific

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military force is the largest followed by the United States, Russia, India, North Korea, and South Korea. The U.S. has fought three major wars in Asia in the last century, with enormous loss of life.

U.S. trade with the Asia Pacific region is also significant. U.S. businesses conducted more than \$500 billion in trade and have invested more than \$150 billion throughout the Asia Pacific region. Tuna, for example, is the third major fish commodity trade internationally and Thailand continues to be the largest exporter of canned tuna. The main tuna catching nations are also in Asia. Japan and Taiwan catch more tuna than any other nation in the world. Indonesia and South Korea are also important tuna fishing nations.

Given that American Samoa's economy is more than 80-percent dependent, either directly or indirectly, on the tuna business, I am pleased to represent the interests of American Samoa as the Ranking Member of the House International Relations Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific. It is a pleasure to also represent the interests of our men and women serving in the military. As I have said before, the threat of terrorism, nuclear build-up and military conflict in the Asia Pacific region is real. There is serious concern in the U.S. Congress about al-Qaeda cells and terrorist activities throughout the

region. There is also serious concern about North Korea's nuclear build-up.

We cannot know what the future holds and we do not know when or where our service men may be called to serve. What we do know is that these are critical times. These are critical times for American Samoa and these are critical times for the United States of America. These are the times when American Samoa must have a voice in the economic and military affairs of our region.

American Samoa now holds the number one Minority seat on the House International Relations Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific which is responsible for reviewing the problems of foreign policy and security threats from rogue regimes that have or could gain power to create or use weapons of mass destruction. This subcommittee also has broad responsibility for certain issues dealing with U.S. trade within the region and I am fully committed to doing everything through my service as Ranking Member to see that the interests of American Samoa are protected and represented.



*Congressman Faleomavaega and General Eric K. Shinseki, U.S. Army Chief of Staff, met to discuss the impending war in Iraq. As a Vietnam Veteran, Faleomavaega supports our men and women in uniform and prays that they will return safely home.*

# Numera Tasi Faleomavaega i le Soakomiti mo Asia ma le Pasefika i le Itu Agai

*fa'aauau mai i le itulau 1*

lalolagi o lo'o i ai i lenei vaega o le lalolagi. O le vaega'au a Saina e aupito sili ona to'atele, o lona lua o le Iunaite Setete, soso'o atu ai ma Lusua, Initia, Korea i Matu, ma Korea i Saute. E tolu ni taua tetele na tauina e le Iunaite Setete i Asia i le seneturi fa'ato'a mavae atu ma o se tulaga mao'e le tele o tagata na maliliu ai.

E taua tele fo'i lenei vaega o le lalolagi i le Iunaite Setete mo tulaga tau i fefa'ataua'iga o oloa. E silia ma le 500 piliona tala pe a fa'atino i tupe fefa'ataua'iga tau i pisinisi a le Iunaite Setete i le atu Pasefika ma Asia, e le gata i lea e silia ma le 150 piliona tala tupe o loo inivesi e le Iunaite Setete i lea lava vaega ole lalolagi. O se fa'ata'ita'iga, o le i'a o le tuna e numera tolu i le lalolagi i tulaga tau i tamaoaiga e maua mai i fefa'ataua'iga ma o le malo o Tailani o lo'o numera tasi i le tele o apa tuna latou te fa'atau atu i fafo. O lo'o numera muamua fo'i malo i le atu Asia i le fagotaina o le tuna. E sili atu le tele o tuna o lo'o maua e Iapani ma Taiuani i lo so'o se isi lava malo i le lalolagi. E fa'apena fo'i ona maua le tulaga o Indonesia ma Korea i Saute i le tele o tuna o lo'o latou maua.

Pe tusa ma le 80-pasene o le tatou ala manuia lautele o lo'o fa'alagolago i galuega tau i i'a po'o tuna, ua ou fiafia ai lava i lenei avanoa ou te mafai ai ona fa'a'ailoa se finagalo o Amerika Samoa i totonu o le Komiti mo le Va Fealoa'i ma Malo i Fafo lea o lo'o avea ai a'u ma sui numera muamua a le Itu Agai i le Soakomiti mo Asia ma le Pasefika.

O se fiafiaga maua fo'i ia te a'u le avea o a'u ma fofoga taumomoli o tatou alo o lo'o tautua i vaega'au a le Malo Tele i totonu lava o lea komiti. E pei ona ou fa'a'ailoa i se taimi ua fano, e le tau-mateina le aga'i mai o tulaga tau fa'amata'u, ma le fa'ateleina o mea-tau mata'utia e iai nukilia, fa'apea fetau'iga tau militeli i le atu

Asia ma le Pasefika. O loo iai se atugaluga tele i le Konekeresi e uiga i ni vaega aufa'atasi ma le vaega fa'amata'u e ta'ua o al-Qaeda atoa ma isi lava tulaga fa'amata'u ua aliali mai i lea vaega o le lalolagi. O lo'o



*Congressman Faleomavaega met with CSM Iuniasolua Savusa in DC to discuss issues that are affecting Samoans in the military including their inability to vote in American Samoa during elections. CSM Savusa, who served in Operation Enduring Freedom, is also serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.*

fa'apena fo'i ona atulagalu le Iunaite Setete ona o le taofi o Korea i Matu e toe fa'aauau ma fa'alauteleina lana polokalame tau nukilia.

Tatou te le mailoa pe fa'apefa tulaga o le lumana'i, tatou te le iloa fo'i le taimi po'o le vaega o le lalolagi e mana'omia mai ai le fesoasoani a tatou vaega'au. Peita'i, ua tatou silafia lelei o taimi vevesi ma faigata nei ua tatou iai. O taimi vevesi ma le faigata ia Amerika Samoa fa'apea fo'i ma le Iunaite Setete o Amerika. O taimi tonu nei e tata ai ona i ai se leo o Amerika Samoa i upu fai i le va o Malo i mataupu tau manuia lautele fa'apea fuafuaga tau militeli i le atu Asia ma le Pasefika atoa.

O a outou talosaga ma lo outou tapua'i faiva lea ua fa'apaleina ai Amerika Samoa ma tatou maua ai le nofoa numera muamua a le Itu Agai i totonu o le Soakomiti mo Asia ma le Pasefika i le Komiti mo le Va Fealoa'i ma Malo i Fafo lea o lo'o feagai ma le iloiloa o mataupu e aofia ai fuafuaga tau fa'amata'u o lo'o aliali mai i ni isi o malo fouvale ma le fa'avevesi i le nofo sololelei o le lalolagi. E iai fo'i le aia tatau o le nei soakomiti e tautalagia ai mataupu tau i fefa'ataua'iga o oloa i le atu Asia ma le Pasefika ma ua ou fa'amoemoe ai lava o le a ou galue malos i lo'u nofo ai i lea nofoa numera muamua e va'ava'aia ai ma puipui i a tatou taumafaiga tau i ala manuia fa'apea isi fa'amoemoga loloto mo le lumana'i o le tatou atunu'u.

## Faleomavaega Serves on House Committee on Small Business

In addition to my memberships in the House Committee on Resources and House Committee on International Relations, I also serve on the House Committee on Small Business.

In February of this year, the Democratic Steering Committee announced vacancies on the Committee on Small Business. Although the Democratic rules of the House usually only allow a member to serve on two Committees, special provisions were made for members wishing to serve on the Committee on Small Business. I want to thank the Democratic Steering Committee for honoring my request to serve.

The Committee on Small Business recognizes that small businesses are essential to the economic well-being of our communities. Small businesses foster economic opportunity and it is our duty as a Committee to facilitate the growth of small businesses and to minimize government intrusion.

This Congress, we have taken upon us the tasks of monitoring the effectiveness of the Small Business Administration and examining ways of improving access to medical care for small business owners and their employees. We will also be examining ways to expand export opportunities for small business. We have a full agenda before us this session, which is already well underway.

On March 5, 2003 Secretary Chao of the Department of Labor testified before us regarding the challenge we have before us to make certain that small businesses are provided access to affordable and quality health care. This effort has wide-spread support from both Congress and the Bush Administration and I am pleased that I have the opportunity to sit on this Committee and help facilitate the creation of legislation that will benefit small business owners, including those in American Samoa.

## Avea Faleomavaega ma Sui i le Komiti mo Pisinisi Laiti

E le gata o a'u o se sui i totonu o komiti a le Maota o Sui e iai le Komiti mo Ala Manuia fa'apea le Komiti mo le Va Fealoa'i ma Malo i Fafo, ae o a'u fo'i o se totonu o le Komiti mo Pisinisi Laiti.

I le masina o Fepuari na fa'ato'a mavae atu nei, sa fa'alauiloa ai e le Komiti Fa'atonu a le Itu Agai po'o le Temokarati e fa'apea o lo'o iai ni avanoa mo ni isi e fia galulue pe avea ma sui i le Komiti mo Pisinisi Laiti. O aiaiga ta'oto a le itu Agai i le Maota o Sui e fa'atapula'a ai e na o le lua (2) komiti e mafai ona galue ai so'o se Faipule, ae peita'i sa fa'aagafua e le Komiti Fa'atonu lea aiaiga ma maua ai loa le avanoa mo so'o se tasi e fia galue i le Komiti mo Pisinisi Laiti e ofi ai i lea komiti. Ou te matua fa'afetai ai lava i le Komiti Fa'atonu a le Temokarati ina ua taliaina la'u talosaga ou te fia galue pe avea ma sui i lea komiti.

E talitonu le Komiti mo Pisinisi Laiti i le taua tele o pisinisi laiti i fuafuaga tau i atina'e o le manuia lautele ma

le sologa lelei o se faiganu'u po'o se faigamalo. O pisinisi laiti latou te fa'amalosia pe fa'aolaolaina atina'e tau i le tamaoaiga ma o le tiute la o le komiti i na ia fa'atulaga ni auala e fa'afaigofie ai ona fa'afotu ma olaola pisinisi laiti ae tau fa'aititia ni aia lafovale o le Malo Tele.

O lo'o galulue nei lenei komiti e iloilo pe fa'apefea le taunu'uga o galuega po'o polokalame fa'atulagaina a le Matagaluega o Pisinisi Laiti atoa ma le iloiloina o ni auala e fa'afaigofie ai o na 'auai pisinisi laiti i polokalame tau inisia ma le soifua maloloina o lo'o lagolagoina e le Malo Tele e le gata i na mo tagata fai pisinisi ae fa'apea fo'i i latou tagata faigaluega. O lo'o matou taumafai fo'i e saili ni auala e fa'alauteleina ai le fa'atauina atu i fafo o oloa a pisinisi laiti.

Sa fa'aailoa e le susuga i le Failautusi o Elaine Chao o le Matagaluega o le Leipa i sana ta'utinoga i luma o le komiti ia Mati 5, 2003 o le lu'itau o lo'o feagai nei ma le Iunaite Setete e ao ai ina fa'amautuina se auala e mafai ai e pisinisi laiti ona maua se fesoasoani mai i le Malo Tele e fa'aititia ai le tau o inisia tau i le soifua maloloina. E matua sapaapaia malosi lenei fa'ataata e le lautele o le Konekeresi fa'apea le susuga i le Peresitene ma lana faigamalo, ma o se fiafiaga lea ia te a'u ona ua ou maua le avanoa e ave ai ma sui i totonu o lea komiti ma lafo taofi ai i le fausia o se tulafono e fesoasoani ai i pisinisi laiti e aofia ai ma pisinisi i Amerika Samoa.

### Information on the Iraq War

The Department of Defense (DOD) has cancelled mail programs that allowed the general public to send mail addressed to "Any Service Member."

However, individuals may send Care Packages specifically addressed to their loved ones who are serving in the Iraq area or anywhere else overseas for that matter. Examples of suggested items for the Iraq area may include international calling cards, disposable cameras, toiletries, sunscreen, and letters or greeting cards. Some restrictions may apply. Check with the local post office for details on any restrictions.

For further information on general support for our men and women in uniform, contact my office in Utulei at 684-633-1372 or in Washington, DC at 202-225-8577.

For the latest official updates on the Iraq war, visit the DoD website at: <http://www.defenselink.mil>

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