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“Acting Governor Talauega Commends Honorable Aumua and Honorable Westerman for support for New Hospital.”

Congresswoman Amata and Honorable Westerman have been supportive of efforts for a new Hospital.

The United States House of Representatives passed an appropriation bill on July 29, 2021, allowing funding to various federal governments, including The Department of Interior. As requested by Congresswoman Amata, an increase of \$2.5 million is included in the bill and has been approved for the planning efforts toward a new and improved hospital.

“Improving healthcare has been a priority for this administration since taking oath, and this legislation will allow for the American Samoa Government to move forward in our efforts to begin planning for a new hospital. I want to commend Congresswoman Amata and her staff for their continuous support of this initiative as promised during Governor Lemanu’s initial Testimony before the U.S. House Committee of Natural Resources earlier this year. As well as the unwavering support of the Honorable Bruce Westerman, shown during the same committee hearing.”

The Honorable Lemanu expressed in his statement to the House Committee of Natural Resources, “We are interested in building a new hospital in a new location versus renovating the old hospital. A new hospital will allow American Samoa to save lots of money sending off patients off the island while treating them here locally.

However, we will need to pull back to move forward. Meaning, we need to focus on other areas of government that need to be improved for all citizens to enjoy the new hospital. We need to improve the modes of sea and air transportation, seashore protection, and critical infrastructure.”

This bill and its support is a step forward in improved healthcare as promised to our people. Acting Governor, the Honorable Talauega expresses his heartfelt gratitude to Congresswoman Amata for her leadership and commitment to the people of American Samoa.

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