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## American Samoa's 62<sup>nd</sup> Constitution Day

*"It has been a mission of this administration to raise awareness, to engage the public, but above all, to afford our people their right to be heard. Our democracy works when everyone is heard."*

On Friday, October 14, 2022, the Lemanu-Talauega administration proclaimed October 17th as the "American Samoa Constitution Day", and the Office of Political Status, Constitutional Review & Federal Relations under the leadership of Director Tapaau Dr. Dan Aga, in partnership with DYWA Director Salote Aoelua-Fanene, hosted a Constitutional Day Carnival on Monday, October 17th, at the Su'igaula Utulei Park. The celebration began with its formalities, followed by fun activities by several youth representatives and ASG departments.

Highlighted at the Constitutional Day were the many efforts and events that have prioritized and placed the constitution at the forefront of this administration, from the convening of the Constitutional Review Committee in February ([read more](#)), the Department of Education's Student-Led Constitutional Convention in April ([read more](#)), the 6th Territorial Constitutional Convention of American Samoa in September ([read more](#)), the American Samoa Community College Constitution Week and DOE Student Referendum this past week. Youth representatives charged games and educational booths that discussed the 11 proposed amendments for the midterm election, amongst them was the Tafuna High School's JSA/Close Up Club.

"Our forefathers gathered at the first Constitutional Convention to create a historic document that has become the bedrock of our society," stated Governor Lemanu. He continued, "It has been a mission of this administration to raise awareness, to engage the public, but above all, to afford our people their right to be heard. Our democracy works when everyone is heard. Several members of our community with different walks of life deliberated during the Review Committee. The student-led events involved the youth in the democratic process and instilled in them that they too have ownership over our constitution. Much work has been done, however, the work is not complete. I encourage you all to exercise your right to vote on November 8, 2022."

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