

Education and Personal:

The Congresswoman was raised in American Samoa and currently resides in her home, of many years, in Nu'uuli. She attended elementary school at St. Francis, Lepua, AS, where she was taught by the Sisters and Palepa Gagau (Seui); St. Mary's Primary, Savalalo Samoa; A'oga Samoa (Faife'au's Samoan School), Nuuuli AS, teacher: Sasauli. She also attended middle school at Fiailoa School, Utulei AS until 9th Grade. Graduate, Sacred Hearts Academy (high school). She received a bachelor's degree in 1975 from the University of Guam with additional studies at Loyola Marymount and George Mason universities. In 2017 she was awarded an honorary Ph.D by the Virginia University of Science and Technology. In 2018 she was awarded an LL.D by her alma mater, the University of Guam, and is named among their Distinguished Alumni.



Members from the Territories

Members of Congress from the District of Columbia and the five territories have all the rights and privileges of any other Member of Congress except the right to vote on final passage of legislation, which is reserved for the states by the U.S. Constitution.

As such, Amata:

- Participates and votes on all matters that come before the House Republican Conference, including policy and leadership contests.
- Accrues seniority on the same basis as all other members which determines her ranking on sub-committees and full committees.
- Authors, cosponsors, and introduces legislation without restriction.
- Speaks on the Floor of the House, offers amendments and manages bills.
- Participates in and leads Congressional Delegations both domestically and abroad.
- Presides over House sessions including the Committee of the Whole.

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RE-ELECT

Amata

U. S. Congress



Wife, Mother and Blessed to be
Representing American Samoa



Philosophy of Governance

Amata's guiding principle is adherence to the 10th Amendment to the U.S Constitution in spirit: all powers not granted to the federal government are reserved to the states and the people.

Amata is:

- The nation's highest-ranking elected Republican of Asian Pacific heritage.
- The most senior member of the Republican National Committee.
- The Pacific Ocean's only elected Republican Federal officeholder in Washington.
- The only member of her freshman class to have been invited to serve on three committees and hold two leadership positions.

In Congress She Serves as:

- Vice Ranking Member, full House Committee on Small Business
- Vice Ranking Member, full House Committee on Veterans Affairs
- Member, House Committee on Small Business Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax and Capital Access
- Member, House Committee on Small Business Subcommittee on Rural Development, Agriculture, Trade and Entrepreneurship
- Member, House Committee on Natural Resources Subcommittee on Indigenous Peoples of the United States
- Member, House Committee on Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans and Wildlife
- Member, House Committee on Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

116th Congress Highlights

Federal Funding

As of August 2020, our office has reported that American Samoa has received at least \$60M in Federal funding not related to the ASG Operations account or COVID-19 stimulus funds. (This number only covers press-worthy announcements, and the actual amount of funding is estimated to be much higher.)

As of July 2020, AS has received approximately \$150M in COVID-19 relief.

The House Appropriations Committee passed \$24,620,000 for American Samoa Operations for fiscal year 2021. That is \$500,000 above the enacted level for FY 2020 and the 4th increase to this account in a row since we have assumed office.

Legislation

We have cosponsored 164 pieces of legislation as of July, 2020.

- A majority of the bills are bipartisan
- 20 passed house
- 10 became law

Focus of bills has been on improvements for veterans and small businesses; accessibility and parity for women and the disabled; and commemoration/preservation of historical figures and sites.



Notable laws passed:

- HR 6322 - Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020
- HR 2333 - Support for Suicide Prevention Coordinators Act
- HR 1200 - Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2019
- HR 299 - Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019
- HR 748 - CARES Act

Notable accomplishments include:

- Extension of American Samoa economic development credit (30A)
- Passed 2-year Medicaid extension with increased cap from 12-84 million per year; and reduced ASG cost share from 45-10 percent temporarily and 17 percent permanently
- Increased block grant funding for food stamps

Committee Work - Other

- Vice-Ranking Member for both Small Business and Veteran's Affairs Committees
- Original member of the newly created Women Veterans Task Force, a bipartisan group with the mission of advancing equity in provision of access to resources, benefits, and healthcare for women veterans.

