## RIG'S INC. P.O. Box 1264 Pago Pago, AS 96799

I would like to offer my support for the passage of the American Samoa Protection of Industries Resources and Employment Act (ASPIRE), which is currently before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Natural Resources.

I represent a small business called "The RIGS Hangout" a non-alcohol/non-smoking karaoke and dance club. My business is supported by those who don't drink or smoke and many of them worked at the canneries. I have seen a decline in business since Samoa Packing closed at the end of September.

After closely reviewing the benefits of ASPIRE to increase the direct delivery of fish to American Samoa, possibly allowing Star Kist to still stay here and be competitive with the world market, I am in favor of supporting the ASPIRE bill. I am convinced that small businesses such as mine that depend heavily on the canneries ability to stabilize our economy in areas such as utilities, water and energy costs can benefit us in an otherwise deteriorating economy.

I urge you to ensure ASPIRE becomes law. Our people need it and our businesses need it. It will help us tremendously to boost morale and spirits after the devastation that has hit our island. Through ASPIRE our fishing industry is competitive and our economy is revived

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

President/RIG's Inc.