



For example, and perhaps most important to many American Samoans, has
been the protection of our culture and the protection of our communal land

Political aspirations and the progressive development of free political

institutions:

As noted above, American Samoa has come some considerable distance since
our forefathers made the momentous decision to cede

islands to the United States, which accepted the Deeds of Cession by Act of
Congress in 1929.

under the U.S. Constitution (such as the citizenship case now pending in
Washington, D.C.)

concrete protections, the fact we live under a delegation of authority from
Washington, D.C., will haunt us with the possibilities of action being taken
from here on that impinge on us in ways we cannot anticipate nor forbid.

United States and a low wage country, with environmental and occupational safety laws at lower standards than those mandated for the United States (and American Samoa), then the result is to make American Samoa less competitive relative to its peers.

We recognize that the economic dilemma we face points up the need for the territory to be more proactive in determining its course for the future. But this

is difficult for us to do alone, under our current circumstances. With the support of our administering power, it is our goal to address these issues in the near future.

The way forward:

Throughout its long relationship with the United States, the administering power has been a benevolent, although sometimes over-ruled, overseer of

