



Tamara Leonard

Member of the Parliament of
Sint Maarten

Chairlady of Parliament
Sarah Wescott-Williams
Present

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN	
Ingek.	14 MAR 2019
Volgnr.	S/732/18-19
Par.	B 15 19

Philipsburg, Thursday March 14th 2019

Subject: requesting the Minister of Finance to wave taxes on shows during the 50th Sint Maarten Carnival.

Honorable President,

This year Sint Maarten will be celebrating its 50th Carnival season. Such a significant milestone is a perfect opportunity for our country to make use of, as our economy bounces back from the passing of Hurricane Irma.

The Carnival Foundation along with the Tourist Bureau has been doing a great job promoting our 50th Carnival Season both abroad and on Sint Maarten. One point of concern that is raised again and again come Carnival Season is the heavy tax burden promoters are faced with when organizing shows.

Chairlady, it is for this reason that I would like to request the Honorable Minister of Finance to consider based on paragraph 4 of the ordinance on taxes to wave all taxes that promoters have to pay to put on a show during Carnival Season. Such a waiver would have immediate and long-term effect on our economy. This would allow promoters to bring bigger and better artists to our country, promote Sint Maarten abroad even more, while entrance fees can be kept at a reasonable price. Making sure Sint Maarten is back on the radar as a tourist destination is the responsibility of us all and as government this can be a perfect opportunity to do our part and assist the great job the Sint Maarten Carnival Development Foundation has been doing.

I sincerely hope the Minister takes all the benefits of such waiver into account and I look forward to a prompt response to my request.

Respectfully,

Ms. Tamara E. Leonard
Member of Parliament