THE PARLIAMENT OF SINT MAARTEN

MOTION

2018-2019

The Parliament of Sint Maarten in its meeting of today, June 28th, 2019,

CONSIDERING:

- That the Minister of V.S.A, Mr. Emile Lee, following the devastating impact of Hurricane Irma, the severely impacted Sint Maarten on September 6th, 2017, has shown no evidence of results on restoring a strong social fabric through the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor.

- That 21 months following the passing of Hurricane Irma, no social housing projects have been initiated in cooperation with the Ministry of VSA, even though the need is evident based on housing needs assessments.

- That little progress has been made in the labor needs and issues of the people of Sint Maarten, especially in regards to the abuse of the short term labor contracts.

- That no hurricane shelters have been built as promised to meet the responsibility of government to shelter those in need in the wake of a disaster, especially now, realizing that the hurricane season has started for this calendar year. As a matter of fact, the construction of the hurricane shelters has not even started.

- That the Minister of VSA has failed in establishing clear, evident policy and guidelines for the admittance of highly demanded healthcare professionals to guarantee specific specialist service and continuity of care for our Country, tailored to the necessities of the community of Sint Maarten.

- That 7 months after the official ground breaking ceremony for the New General Hospital of Sint Maarten that took place on the 3rd of December 2018, at which time, firm official commitments have been shared, and huge promises made (while cognizant of the fact that the parent company of selected contractor INSO, was in deep financial problems and probably facing bankruptcy), unfortunately up to now no new hospital construction has been initiated.

- That up to now more than 5 million Antillean guilders has been invested in the project of the New General Hospital, while although a ground breaking ceremony has taken place, no construction of the New General Hospital has started.
- That the Minister of VSA Emile Lee as a consequence of his irresponsible haste to cancel the original agreement with VAMED to build the New General Hospital, the taxpayers were burdened with a reported cost that exceeded a million United States Dollars.

- That the Minister of VSA being cognizant of the critical financial status of the SZV is still allowing the use of SZV funds to be invested in the construction of a New Hospital.

- That under the supervision and responsibility of the Minister of VSA Emile Lee, the financial position of the SZV is worse than it has ever been.

- That the ZV/OV funds, ever since 10-10-10 have lost millions of guilders and is still losing money.

- That Minister, Mr. Emil Lee, is approving and accepting an irresponsible “schommel-financiering” between the individual independent Funds of SZV.

- That Minister of VSA, Mr. Emil Lee has failed to provide accountability to the reported missing of half a million guilders at SZV due to a scam, which has further exacerbated the financial malaise of the institution.

- That until now no structural repayment agreement is in place to tackle the outstanding debts of the Government towards the SZV and that the Minister of VSA, Mr. Emile Lee, up to now has not shown any evident stands and vision concerning the OZR contributions.

- That Minister of VSA, Mr. Emil Lee, although cognizant of the loss on return on investments of approximately 20 million guilders in 2018, the Minister still persists that the SZV is financially healthy enough to contribute as a significant financier for the construction of the New General Hospital.

- That the Minister of VSA, Mr. Emil Lee, is approving significant investments by SZV, in for example, the construction of a New General Hospital, knowing that none of the published annual accounts of SZV, since 2011, have been approved by the SOAB.

- That the Minister of VSA, Mr. Emile Lee, is putting the finance of the Country in jeopardy by increasing the medical tariffs without making the necessary arrangements to increase the premiums.

ESTABLISHES:

That the Minister of VSA, Mr. Emile Lee, has failed to adequately lead the Ministry of VSA.
RESOLVES:

- That Minister of VSA, Mr. Emile Lee, no longer has the confidence of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

- That in accordance with article 33 sub 2 of the constitution of Sint Maarten, any Minister, who receives a vote of No confidence by the parliament of Sint Maarten, must make his or her position immediately available to the Governor of Sint Maarten, in other words the Minister has to resign immediately.

- That effectively immediately, after the motion of No confidence has been endorsed by voting in Parliament, the Minister of VSA Mr. Emil Lee is:
  
  1. prohibited to sign off on any agreements and or contracts or any long-term policies or financial engagements that may obstruct or encumber the new incoming Minister of VSA from functioning adequately and that may commit and or effect and or bind the Country for a long time/term in whatever way.

  2. requested as a caretaker Minister (after the motion of no confidence has been indorsed) to instruct management and board of SZV, to refrain from entering long term financial commitments, hiring of new personnel in management functions, entering into long term agreements and to sign any contracts that may affect or bind the SZV in one or the other way for a long time.

  3. instructed not to take any decision as caretaker Minister of VSA, that will bind Sint Maarten or entities in question to the construction of a new hospital.

  4. being held personally responsible for any decision taken following this motion of No confidence against him, that may have serious financial and administrative consequences for Country Sint Maarten and or Government Owned Companies and or entities such as the SZV.

And goes over to the order of the day,
Copies of this motion to be sent to:

- The Governor of Sint Maarten
- The Government of Sint Maarten/Council of Ministers of Sint Maarten/The Prime Minister and Minister of General Affairs of Sint Maarten
- The Kingdom Council of Ministers
- The Government of Curacao
- The Government of Aruba
- The Parliament of Curacao
- The Parliament of Aruba
- First and Second Chamber of the Netherlands
- General Audit Chamber of Sint Maarten
- Council of Advice of Sint Maarten

Sint Maarten, June 28, 2019

Submitted by:

MP. Luc Mercelina

Supported by the following MP's:

Christopher Emmanuel

S. Jacobs
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<td>1.</td>
<td>Sarah A. Wescot-Williams</td>
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