

Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Finance Mr. R. Gibson p/a Council of Ministers Philipsburg

UV/311/2015-2016

Philipsburg, August 29, 2016

Re: Questions from MP L.M. Marlin-Romeo

Hon. Minister Gibson,

Herewith I submit to you questions posed by Member of Parliament, Mr. Leona M. Marlin-Romeo, pursuant to article 62 of the Constitution and article 69 of the Rules of Order of the Parliament of Sint Maarten.

The letter is self-explanatory.

Yours truly,

S.A Wescot Williams President of Parliament



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To the Chairman of Parliament Honorable Member of Parliament Sarah Wescott-Williams Present Ingek. 2 5 AUG 2016
Volgnr. 15/1053/15/6

Thursday, 25 August 2016

There is a growing apprehension amongst civil servants about the decision to deduct back-tax from their salaries without notification. Based on this concern and questions posed by few civil servants, I would like to inquire through the chair, to the Minister of Finance, the following;

- 1. Why was such an abrupt decision taken to withdraw back tax from salaries when payment arrangements were already in place?
- 2. Why wasn't the civil servants informed that this would take place?
- 3. Is this being executed across the board, which includes Members of Parliament because it is known that a few Members of Parliament has tax issues as well?
- 4. What percentage was agreed upon to deduct from the civil servants salaries?
- 5. Can Parliament receive a copy of that decision?
- 6. How was this arranged for the private sector?
- 7. Did the minister consider that civil servants were placed in a higher tax bracket, without notification, why was this done?

In light of the various complaints, the sluggish economy, the halt on the COLA and the halt on civil servants being given salary raises it is imperative that the Minister of Finance respond within one week upon receipt of this letter.

Hoping to have informed sufficiently in this matter,

With kind Regards.

Leona Marlin-Romeo

Member of Parliament