

Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Finance Mr. Ardwell M.R. Irion Government Administration Building **Philipsburg**

UV/317/2020-2021

Philipsburg, September 1, 2021

Re: Questions from MP S.A. Wescot-Williams regarding the Association of Psychologists and Allied Professionals

Hon. Minister Irion,

Herewith I submit to you questions from Member of Parliament, MP Mrs. S.A. Wescot-Williams, according 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,

R. Brison President of Parliament

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Sarah A. Wescot-Williams

Member of Parliament Sint Maarten

To: Parliament of Sint Maarten Attention: President of Parliament Wilhelminastraat #1 Philipsburg, St. Maarten STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN

Ingek. 24 AUG 2021 Volgnr. ZS 946 /20-21 Par. WS

Philipsburg, August 24, 2021

Honorable President of Parliament,

Kindly find attached a letter to the Minister of Finance Honorable, Ardwell M.R. Irion with the request to forward same.

Respectfully

Sarah A. Wescot-Williams, Member of Parliament United Democratic (UD) Party

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Sarah A. Wescot-Williams

Member of Parliament Sint Maarten

Minister of Finance Honorable Ardwell M.R. Irion Government Administration Building Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

Philipsburg, August 23, 2021

Ref: Association of Psychologists and Allied Professionals.

Honorable Minister Irion,

By letter of November 19, 2020, you informed the Association of Psychologists and Allied Professionals on St. Maarten of the ongoing efforts to rectify an omission in the Turn-Over-Tax legislation, namely that presently, unlike their professional care colleagues, psychologists etc. are not exempted from paying Turn-over-Tax.

At the time of your letter (November 2020), ref. no. 2954-A, you apprised the association of the further process, as the advice from the Council of Advice was received and needed to be reacted on. It is several months now that representatives of the association have approached me regarding a possible initiative amendment to rectify this unfair situation, which exists for years.

Reviewing the Council of Advice's site, I have concluded that the request to the Council of Advice for advice on this draft dates back to February 2019.

Given the time that this matter has taken, I kindly ask that you inform me post haste of the following:

- 1. Has Fiscal Affairs drafted the further report and has the Council of Ministers approved same?
- 2. If not, why not?
- 3. If yes, when was this done?
- 4. When will the parliament receive an amendment to the Turn-over-Tax ordinance, rectifying this omission?
- 5. Will/can this matter be corrected retroactively, given the unequal treatment endured by the professionals in question, especially given the stressful environment in which all our medical professionals operate due to the Covid-19 pandemic?

I look forward to your prompt response and remain,

Sarah A. Wescot-Williams, Member of Parliament United Democratic Party