

DRAFT MOTION

Parliament in its meeting of March ²² 2012

Considering that:

The 2012 budget has been presented by the Ministry of Finance to the Parliament;

That prior to the budget being presented the Ministry of Finance had prior consultation with the CFT in order to ensure that the budget complies with the Kingdom Law Financial Supervision Curacao and St. Maarten;

That the budget of St. Maarten 2012 as presented by the Ministry of Finance has been given (temporary approval) by the CFT pending the final approval by Parliament;

That upon approval by Parliament the CFT will once more review the budget;

That in the event amendments are adopted by Parliament that affects the projected income and expenditures in the budget as presented by the Ministry of Finance, these amendments could result in a second round of deliberations that may further delay a final approval of the budget;

That the Ministry of Finance has projected an income on the budget for succession tax of Nafl 1 million guilders;

That the law on the levying and collection of succession tax (successie en overgangs belasting als bedoeld in de successie belasting verordening 1908, PB 1908 nr 48) exists since 1908;

That the levying and collection of succession tax was the authority of the former Government of the Netherlands Antilles;

That the levying and collection of succession tax has not been vehemently pursued by the former Government of the Netherlands Antilles during the past 10 years;

That St. Maarten is desirous of changing its tax collection regime from direct to indirect taxes;

That this process has started whereby the Ministry of Finance is in consultation with different stakeholders to present the vision of government on this matter;

That since 10/10/10 the basis for government revenue from the former Government of the Netherlands Antilles has been TOT, Gasoline Excises, Transfer Fees (overdrachtsbelasting) without succession tax being levied and collected.

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That it is known that the strength of the St. Maarten's people rest in property ownership which was acquired and obtained through inheritance of our forefathers who toiled our soil;

That with implementation of the succession tax the heirs of inherited properties will become subject to assessments, possibly going back to the years that they have inherited these properties;

That a recent statement made by the Tax Office indicated that in instances the tax collector may go as far back as 15 years;

That the legal successor of the former Government of the Netherlands Antilles is now the government of St. Maarten;

That the succession tax is projected in the 2012 budget in the amount of Nafl 1 million to be collected in 2012.

That this will continue to have a negative shocking effect on those persons in the community who have, by way of inheritance have become beneficiaries;

That the Central Bank of Curacao and St. Maarten have projected a negative growth in 2012;

That the implementation of additional taxation will only further contract the economy of St. Maarten;

That effective 10/10/10/ in addition to the new organizational structure for government comprising of the various Ministries and Parliament, the high organs of State were created including the General Audit Chamber, the Advisory Council and the Social Economic Council;

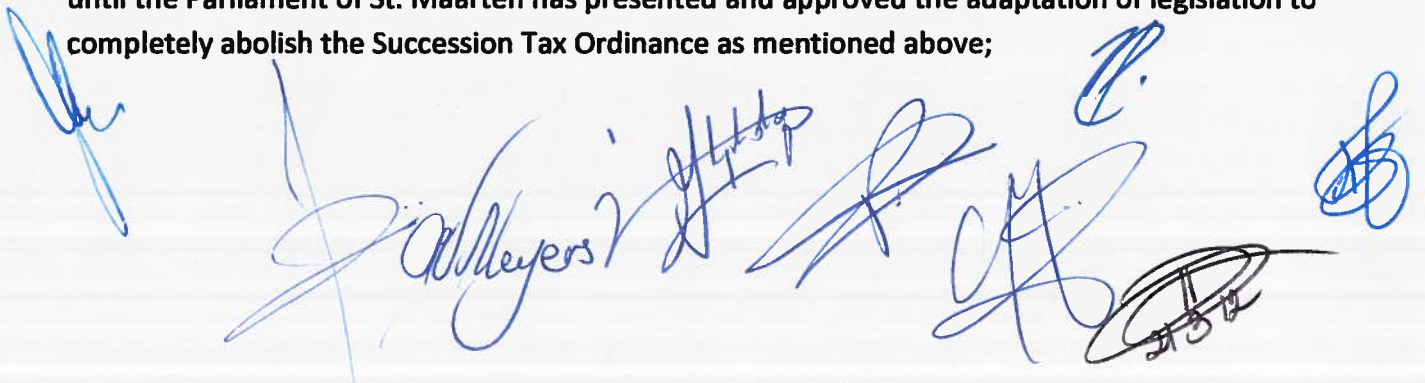
That it would be unfair to the people of St. Maarten to burden them with additional tax assessments in connection with the implementation of the succession tax, while the expenditures of the abovementioned institutions are projected to be increased in 2012:

That the budget of St. Maarten is established by law (landsverordening)

That article 84 and article 86 of the Constitution (Staatsregeling) allows the Parliament to make amendments to laws submitted by the Government to the Parliament for approval;

RESOLVES

To defer (suspend) with immediate effect the implementation and collection of succession tax, until the Parliament of St. Maarten has presented and approved the adaptation of legislation to completely abolish the Succession Tax Ordinance as mentioned above;



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To balance the 2012 budget because of the above, by having all 7 Ministries, the the General Audit Chamber, the Council of Advice and the Social Economic Council and the Parliament, implement a reduction of their respective budget allocations for 2012, whereby their budgeted expenditures will be lowered by an amount of Naf1 83.333,— equally in the budget year 2012:

That this motion becomes an integral part of Parliament's approval to the 2012 budget as presented by the Ministry of Finance in accordance with article 86 of the constitution:

And goes over to the order of the day

Copies of this motion to be sent to:

- The Governor
- The Council of Ministers
- The General Audit Chamber
- The Advisory Council
- The Social Economic Council
- The Inspectorate of Taxes

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Refusio de wever.

21/3/12

03/24/12

Dr Ruth AG Douglas
21 3 2012



STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN
Thursday, March 22, 2012 Public Meeting no. 13

Voting list Motion no. 7 *Succession fee*

NO.	NAME	VOOR/FOR	TEGEN/AGAINST
1.	Drs. Gracita R. Arrindell	✓	
2.	P.G. Illidge	✓	
3.	S.V. Olivacce-Meyers	✓	
4.	J.E. Leonard	✓	
5.	J.C. James	✓	
6.	R.J. Laville	✓	
7.	R.A.G. Douglass	✓	
8.	R.R. Marlin	✓	
9.	P.L. de Weever	✓	
10.	W.V. Marlin	✓	
11.	L.J. Richardson	✓	
12.	G.C. Pantophlet	✓	
13.	H.L. Richardson	✓	
14.	L.E. Laveist	✓	
15.	F.G. Richardson	✓	

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