



Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

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

UV/181/2020-2021

Philipsburg, March 31, 2021

Re: Questions from MP C.A. Buncamper regarding income tax levied on pension income

Hon. Minister of Finance,

Herewith I submit to you questions posed by Member of Parliament, Mr. C. A. Buncamper, 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,

R. Brison
President of Parliament



Claudius A. Buncamper BSc.

Member of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

Sint Maarten, March 29th 2021

President of Parliament
Parliament of Sint Maarten
Wilhelminastraat 1
Philipsburg, St. Maarten

Subject: Questions for Minister of Finance.

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN	
Ingek.	29 MAR 2021
Volgnr.	S/533/20-21
Par.	U W A P

Dear Honorable President of Parliament:

Pursuant to article 69 of the Rules of Order of Parliament, I hereby request that you forward the attached questions to the Minister of Finance, the Honorable Ardwell Irion.

Thank you in advance.

Respectfully,

Claudius A. Buncamper
Member of Parliament
Faction Leader, United St. Maarten Party



Claudius A. Buncamper BSc.

Member of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

The Minister of Finance
Honorable Ardwel Irion,
Government Administration Building,
Soualiga Road # 1,
Philipsburg,
St. Maarten

Ref: Income tax levied on pension income

Philipsburg, March 29th 2021

Dear Minister;

I am certain that it has come to your attention also, that pensioners are dissatisfied with wage/income tax being levied to their already low pension income, especially in these challenging times when the pension might be their only source of income. It is a given fact that employees have benefitted from the deductions of their pension premium payments from their gross salaries, while government has sustained that loss of income.

In consideration of the possibility to discontinue levying wage/income tax on pension income, I would appreciate your ministry providing me the following information at your earliest convenience so a initiative law amendment can take place:

- 1) Is your ministry considering the possibilities to cease levying wage/income tax on the pension income? If so, what plans are there in place to do so and what timeframe is proposed for such?
- 2) How much money has government collected from wage/income tax levied on pension income over the years 2016 to 2020?
- 3) How much additional funds would government stand to generate if the pension premiums of all working residents were no longer deductible from the gross salary, and the income tax was to be calculated based on the gross taxable salary?
- 4) Taking into account the answers to questions 2) and 3) above, would it be beneficial for government to levy taxes on the gross salary (without deducting the pension premium payments) and cease levying taxes on pension income? If so, how much would government stand to lose or gain?
- 5) If there's a loss would government have a solution to cover said loss starting from budget 2022?

I will await your response to the above questions.

Respectfully;

Claudius A. Buncamper BSc.
Member of Parliament
Faction Leader, United St. Maarten Party (USP)