

Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Transport and Telecommunication Ms. L.N.L. de Weever
Government Administration Building
Philipsburg

UV/182/2020-2021

Philipsburg, March 31, 2021

Re: Questions from MP A.J.G. Romou regarding the Casino Rouge et Noir being in close proximity to a school and library

Hon. Minister De Weever,

Herewith I submit to you questions posed by Members of Parliament, Ms. A.J.G. Romou, 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



Angelique J.G. Romou MSc.

Member of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

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Honorable President of Parliament Parliament of Sint Maarten Wilhelmina Straat #1 Philipsburg, St. Maarten

26 march 2021

Ref: Questions for Minister of TEATT with regards to the Casino Rouge Et Noir being in close proximity to a School and library

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 Honorable Minister of TEATT the Honorable Minister Ludmila de Weever.

Thanking you in advance for your kind cooperation.

Yours Sincerely,

MP Angelique J.G. Romou MSc.

OF SALES

Angelique J.G. Romou

Member of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

Questions for Minister of TEATT with regards to the Casino Rouge Et Noir being in close proximity to a School and library

- 1. What are the official opening hours of this casino?
- 2. There are allegations that the door which faces the school and library is being utilized as an entrance. Can you confirm if this is true or if you have also heard these same sentiments? If it is true, does the casino have a necessary permit to open this door and if no what are the sanctions for such?
- 3. Will the ministry be launching an investigation or is the ministry currently performing an investigation to concur if the above statement, if indeed the door facing the Library and School, is being used as an entrance?
- 4. Can you explain what the permit of this casino entails? What is allowed and what is prohibited?
- 5. Is there a policy (or policies) that governs the proximity of Casinos and other types of businesses that may conflict with businesses that are considered sensitive, such as schools, libraries or other institutions where children, youngsters frequent, if yes what does the policy dictate and can you provide me with a copy of said policy? If no, are such policies being worked on?
- 6. A. Additionally, if the Ministry does have a policy in place, does the Ministry see the need to have these policies revised especially seeing the current situation regarding the casino with schools in close proximity?
 - B. Or is the ministry working on new policies to curtail having these vulnerable institutions in close proximity to establishments which are deemed as a nuisance to the sensitive institutions, if no why not and if yes, when do you expect these policies to be completed?

- 7. Is there anything that can be done, in your capacity as Minister of TEATT, to rectify the current situation of the Rouge Et Noir Casino being in very close proximity to a school and a library?
- 8. Is there a law that can rectify this, if yes what does the law state?
- 9. Has there been any complaints lodged against this casino since its relocation to its current location?
- 10. Any complaints lodged by the schools in the nearby area?
- 11. Have there been any discussions with the Minister of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports regarding this situation?
- 12. If there is absolutely nothing that can be done as a result of (lack of) our policies and laws, is the Ministry willing to facilitate healthy discussions between the establishment and the school to explore the possibility of said establishment investing positively into the school and a possible adopt a school relationship?