

Draft Motion of Parliament

In its meeting of March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 the Parliament of St. Maarten:

Considering

The demolition of ~~Building~~ <sup>ruins</sup> known as "Diamond Estate" and its historical significance,

that the Monumental Council has "expressed profound sadness and anger" regarding its demolition and that "Property may be private, but that does not give persons the right to devalue property in pursuit of their own interest",

that the monument council also stated that "As a way forward, the Department of Culture, in consultation with the Monument Council, will issue an advisory document to undertake a survey of the property to determine the full historical scope of the site and the ruins that are still present",

that pursuant to the relevant national ordinances, the government could have legal recourse to restore the monument to as close as possible to its original state as is the stated wish of the department of culture and the monument council, and a sentiment of many of our citizens

That the land on which Diamond Estate is has an owner and a person that has power of attorney over the property,

Resolves

For the government to expedite the Department of Culture and the Monument Council's efforts to determine the historical significance of the remaining rubble, which could lead to the area and remaining rubble being still placed on the protected monuments list

For the government, in the context of being able to establish violations to both the monument and spatial planning ordinance, investigate who the ultimate offenders are in the demolition of diamond estate, in order to restore the monument based on the ruins that remain present as recommended by the monument council

That if offences and the offenders have been established, in accordance with the penal provisions of the monument and spatial planning ordinances, legal action is taken necessary to rebuild the Diamond Estate at the expense of those are responsible of demolishing the monument in the first place


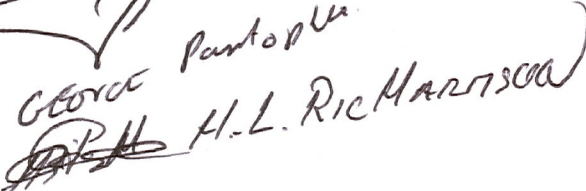
To report back within 3 months to Parliament on the actions taken in regards to these resolutions

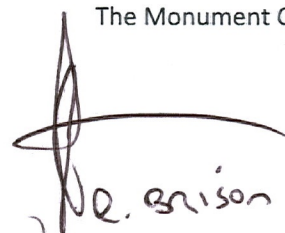
And goes over to the order of the day,

Copies of this motion will be sent to:

The Government of St. Maarten

The Monument Council of St. Maarten

  
George Pantopoulos  
  
H.L. Ric Harrison

  
R. Brison