

1983 WL 182003 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

September 20, 1983

*1 The Honorable C. B. Inabinett
Mayor
Town of Ravenel
Post Office Box 126
Ravenel, South Carolina 29470

Dear Mayor Inabinett:

Your recent request for an opinion has been referred to me for reply. You have stated that at an August 20, 1983, meeting the Ravenel Town Council voted themselves and the mayor a raise in salary. You have inquired if the mayor and council can immediately begin receiving their raise or if they will have to wait until the next general election.

The pay raise will not go into effect until after the next general election. SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS, 1976, Section 5-7-170, as amended, provides in part that:

[t]he council may determine the annual salary of its members by ordinance; provided, that an ordinance establishing or increasing such salaries shall not become effective until the commencement date of the terms of two or more members elected at the next general election following the adoption of the ordinance, at which time it will become effective for all members whether or not they were elected in such election.

Sincerely,

Treva G. Ashworth
Senior Assistant Attorney General

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