

1981 WL 158064 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

December 3, 1981

**\*1 RE: Public Expenditures**

Representative D. N. Holt, Jr.  
328-B Blatt Building  
Columbia, S.C. 29211

Dear Representative Holt:

You have written to inquire whether or not a state legislator may require a state agency to provide a comprehensive breakdown of its expenditures of state appropriations, and whether or not a legislator may demand the same breakdown for funds held by a state agency which are not state appropriations. Under the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, certain matters are declared public information. Such information encompasses 'information in or taken from any account, voucher or contract dealing with the receipt of expenditure of public or other funds by public bodies . . .' Section 30-4-50(6). Under the Act, any person may require any public agency to produce for inspection or copying information concerning the expenditures of either public or private funds by that public body. However, a public agency is not required to 'breakdown' its expenditures. Access alone is all that is mandated under the law.

I hope that this reply will be of assistance to you, and please do not hesitate to call upon me should further aid be required.

Sincerely,

Judith Evans Finuf  
Assistant Attorney General

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