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The State of South Carolina



Office of the Attorney General

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December 7, 1993

The Honorable Stephen P. Lanford, Sr. Member, House of Representatives District No. 35, Spartanburg County 333-D Blatt Building Columbia, SC 29211

Dear Representative Lanford:

You have requested the opinion of this Office as to whether a school board or state supported school can prohibit political candidates from campaigning and/or passing out political paraphernalia to persons attending local football games. In response to your request I am enclosing copies of two previous opinions of this Office addressing related matters. Ops. Att'y Gen. March 17, 1978, and April 11, 1978. I am also enclosing a copy of a February 21, 1990, opinion which indicated that a school district is not required to make its facilities available at nonschool times to outside groups unless it permits some such groups to use the facilities. Ops. Att'y Gen. February 21, 1990. The above authority indicates that a school district may be permitted to prohibit campaigning at a school district football game on school property provided that other outside groups or individuals are not permitted to use the facility for non-school purposes.

I hope that this information is helpful to you. If you need further information, please let me know.

Yours very truly,

J. Emory Smith, Jr. Deputy Attorney General

JESjr:ppw Enclosures

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

JAMES PATRICK HUDSON

Chief Deputy Attorney General

ROBERT D. COOK Executive Assistant for Opinions

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