



The State of South Carolina  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

CHARLES M. CONDON  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 17, 1998

Ms. Sheila H. Howard  
Human Resource Manager  
Department of Agriculture  
P.O. Box 11280  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

RE: Informal Opinion

Dear Ms. Howard:

Your opinion request has been forwarded to me for reply. You have asked for this Office's opinion regarding the employment of unclassified employees by South Carolina Commodity Boards.

As we previously discussed over the telephone, as a general rule, this Office will defer to the agency charged with interpreting the relevant law and regulations. In this case, you have approached the Office of Human Resources regarding your question. In a letter dated August 28, 1998, Donna Traywick, Director of the Office of Human Resources, analyzed your question and concluded that unclassified employees of the commodity boards do not forego the grievance rights found in state law. This conclusion seems reasonable, especially in light of an opinion of this Office dated August 7, 1985. (copy attached). Accordingly, we would defer to the conclusion reached by Ms. Traywick in her August 28, 1998 letter.

This letter is an informal opinion only. It has been written by a designated assistant attorney general and represents the position of the undersigned attorney as to the specific questions asked. It has not, however, been personally scrutinized by the Attorney General nor officially published in the manner of a formal opinion.

Ms. Howard  
Page 2  
November 17, 1998

With kindest regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul M. Koch". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "P" and "K".

Paul M. Koch

Assistant Attorney General