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Office of the Attorney General

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March 13, 1989

The Honorable Liston D. Barfield Member, House of Representatives 416B Blatt Building Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Representative Barfield:

Your letter to Patty Petway has reached me for reply. Patty is away on maternity leave at present and I will attempt to respond to your inquiry. It appears that prior opinions of this Office answer your question. In an opinion dated April 15, 1983 it was determined

> that the salary of the secretary of the legislative delegation is to be determined by the delegation and that the amount, so determined, must be included by the county council in the annual county budget.

This opinion referenced § 3 of Act No. 283, South Carolina Acts and Joint Resolutions, 1975. Such provision, as you are aware, provides that

county councils shall provide office space and appropriations for the operation of the county legislative delegation office including compensation for staff personnel.... <u>The</u> <u>amount of such appropriations shall be deter-</u> <u>mined by the legislative delegation and included</u> <u>in the annual county budget by the council.</u> § 3, Act No. 283, South Carolina Acts and Joint Resolutions, 1975. (emphasis added)

A similar conclusion was reached in an opinion dated July 15, 1977. See, South Carolina Attorney General Opinion 77-222. Both of these opinions are included for your information. The Honorable Liston D. Barfield Page 2 March 13, 1989

If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to let us know. With kind regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

Charles H. Richardson Jan

Charles H. Richardson Assistant Attorney General

CHR/an

Enclosures

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

Robert D. Cook Executive Assistant for Opinions