

The State of South Carolina



Office of the Attorney General

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December 20, 1989

The Honorable Thomas A. Limehouse
Member, House of Representatives
Drawer 2005
Summerville, South Carolina 29484

Dear Representative Limehouse:

In a letter to this Office you questioned whether window tinting darker than that authorized pursuant to the provisions of Sections 56-5-50515 of the Code may be applied to vehicles manufactured prior to the effective date of such provision during the period before the provision becomes fully effective.

Section 56-5-5015 was included in Act No. 532 of 1988. As to its effective date, it is stated

(t)he provisions of Section 56-5-5015 apply to all vehicles manufactured after the effective date of this act. The provisions of Section 56-5-5015 apply to all other vehicles three years from the effective date of this act.

Section 56-5-5015 became effective January 1, 1989. As stated, the provisions of Section 56-5-5015 are applicable to all vehicles manufactured after January 1, 1989 and are applicable to all other vehicles January 1, 1992.

In your letter you questioned the legality of tinting darker than authorized by the legislation for vehicles manufactured prior to January 1, 1989. It appears that as of January 1, 1989 Section 56-5-5015 is applicable only to vehicles manufactured after January 1, 1989 until January 1, 1992 at which time it would be applicable to all vehicles. Therefore, windows of vehicles manufactured for example in 1986 may presently be tinted darker than the provisions of Section 56-5-5015 allow. However, effective January 1, 1992 all vehicles would have to be in compliance with the provision.

The Honorable Thomas A. Limehouse
Page 2
December 20, 1989

If there is anything further, please advise.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Richardson
Assistant Attorney General

CHR/nnw

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:



Robert D. Cook
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