

1983 WL 181853 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

April 19, 1983

*1 Marion E. Woodbury
Vice President for Finance
Medical University of South Carolina
171 Ashley Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29425

Dear Marion:

Thanks for your recent letter and memo attached concerning cooperative purchasing in Charleston for various hospitals.

It would appear that if the 'various' hospitals 'expended' public funds and served the 'public' generally, that a cooperative purchasing agreement could probably be accomplished short of amending the procurement code.

The Materials Management Office (MMO) of the Division of General Services has in the past been liberal in interpreting definitions, etc., to encourage cooperative purchasing.

If you will forward your proposed 'plan', 'agreement', etc., concerning the cooperative purchasing in Charleston for the various hospitals, we will review them and attempt to assist in getting the proper credentials to accomplish same.

This Office will need to review, among other things, the plan in light of rules of conduct of the Ethics Commission, [Section 8-13-410, et seq., 1976 Code](#), as amended. Also, we will need to review your present certification with MMO, if any, concerning purchasing, in addition to statewide contracts presently being used for hospitals. We will also need to review potential liability and other related problems.

Your memo presented an affirmative approach for cooperative purchasing and this letter is to advise that this Office stands ready to assist in that effort and hopefully, we will be successful.

We look forward to receiving your 'plans' so that we might assist. At present, let's not review any amendments to the procurement code.

Sincerely yours,

Frank K. Sloan
Chief Deputy Attorney General

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