

1980 WL 120599 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

January 14, 1980

***1 Re: Aiken County Board of Education v. Knotts, et al.**

The Honorable William E. Knotts, Jr.

Senator

District No. 8

State House

Columbia, South Carolina

Dear Senator Knotts:

As per your request, I have given some thought to the question of what procedure now exists for the Aiken County Board of Education to raise its tax levies in light of the Order in the above-captioned case. I have also discussed this question with Bert Goolsby, Deputy Attorney General, and Jim Holly, State Attorney, who were all counsel of record in this case.

It would appear that several alternatives may exist. The General Assembly may want to enact a State-wide bill that would handle how all school boards in the State will be able to raise their tax levies; or, the General Assembly could provide that in Aiken County any proposed tax levy increase will be first submitted to the people for their approval by way of a referendum vote; or, the General Assembly could confer the power to approve a tax increase on the Aiken County Government. A fourth possibility may be to authorize the General Assembly to pass a budget each year for the School Board. I believe this last procedure is still presently being used in some counties.

If I can be of further assistance, please advise me.

Very truly yours,

Treva G. Ashworth

Senior Assistant Attorney General

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