

1980 WL 121198 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

April 29, 1980

*1 Vinton D. Lide
General Counsel
S. C. Department of Social Services
Post Office Box 1520
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Dear Mr. Lide:

This will reply to your letter of April 23, 1980, inquiring whether the Department of Social Services may reimburse volunteers who provide services to the Department for the cost of lodging on overnight trips. It is the opinion of this Office that such payment is authorized by Act No. 544 of 1978.

Paragraph two of § 8-25-20 provides:

Every department using the services of volunteers is authorized to provide volunteers with such incidental reimbursements and as the department deems appropriate to assist volunteers in performing their duties.

The plain meaning of this Section is that reimbursement for expenditures which the Department deems appropriate is authorized. This conclusion is further reenforced by § 8-25-40(a) which specifically approves mileage and meal allowances to volunteers who travel on Department business. The omission of reference to lodging allowances in that Section cannot be read as an express limitation, in view of the general provision of § 8-25-20.

Please call if you have any further questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

Frank K. Sloan
Deputy Attorney General

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