

1979 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. 48 (S.C.A.G.), 1979 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 79-31, 1979 WL 29037

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

Opinion No. 79-31

February 21, 1979

***1 SUBJECT: Mobile Homes-Licensing and Moving Permit Requirements**

A license and moving permit is required each time a mobile home is relocated, notwithstanding that the relocation may be made several times within a year.

TO: Honorable Vera T. Benton
Orangeburg County Tax Assessor

QUESTION:

If a mobile home is moved in and out of the county several times a year for the purpose of providing lodging for farm workers, is it necessary to purchase a county license each time the mobile home is relocated?

APPLICABLE LAW:

[§§ 31-17-320, 31-17-340, 31-17-360 and 31-17-380 of the 1976 Code](#) of Laws.

DISCUSSION:

[Section 31-17-320](#) requires a license for a mobile home and [§ 31-17-340](#) provides in part that:

‘A mobile home license issued by the licensing agent shall be valid * * * until the mobile home is relocated.’

[Section 31-17-360](#) provides for a moving permit when the mobile home is relocated and [§ 31-17-380](#) provides:

‘If the relocation is from one county to another the mobile home owner shall within fifteen days after his mobile home is relocated submit the moving permit to the licensing agent of the county wherein such mobile home is relocated and obtain a new license. The licensing agent issuing the moving permit shall promptly furnish the licensing agent of the county to which the mobile home is being transported with a copy of the license application or permit.’

‘Relocate’ is defined in [Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary](#) to mean:

‘To locate or allocate again.’

The language of the statute is clear and must be given effect.

‘In construing a statute the language should be given its ordinary and popular significance without resort to subtle and forced construction for the purpose of limiting its operation; the court can neither legislate nor construe a statute which is clear.’

[Investors Premium Corp. v. South Carolina Tax Commission](#), 260 S.C. 13, 193 S.E.2d 642. For other cases see [17 S.C.D. Statutes](#), Key 188, et seq.

CONCLUSION:

A license and moving permit is required each time a mobile home is relocated, notwithstanding that the relocation may be made several times within a year.

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