

1977 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. 25 (S.C.A.G.), 1976 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 77-15, 1977 WL 24358

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

Opinion No. 77-15

January 11, 1977

\*1 Honorable Kay Patterson  
Member  
House of Representatives  
6815 Gavilan Avenue  
Columbia, South Carolina 29203

Dear Representative Patterson:

Your letter of January 6, 1977, requests the opinion of this Office as to whether educators such as teachers, principals, and superintendents of schools may serve as members of governing bodies such as county councils, city councils, or boards of commissioners, without presenting circumstances which give rise to a conflict of interest.

It is my opinion that there is no conflict of interest per se in a school teacher serving as a member of a governing body such as those you referred to. It is entirely possible that situations may arise that would involve some financial interest affecting a school-official member, and in such circumstances, such provisions of the Ethics Act of 1975 would be applicable and in a given situation a person involved could request an advisory opinion from the State Ethics Commission and be guided by that information.

As your letter makes specific reference to Sumter County circumstances, I am forwarding a copy of this letter to Bryan, Bahnmuller, King, Goldman and McElveen, who are attorneys for Sumter County, with the request that if they have any reservations with regard to the conclusions stated herein, they may express themselves. I am not apprised as to whether School District No. 2 of Sumter County has a generally retained counsel.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

Daniel R. McLeod  
Attorney General

1977 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. 25 (S.C.A.G.), 1976 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 77-15, 1977 WL 24358

---

End of Document

© 2015 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.