

1977 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. 145 (S.C.A.G.), 1977 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 77-189, 1977 WL 24531

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

Opinion No. 77-189

June 17, 1977

**\*1 In Re: (1) Governor, Authority to Provide Legal Assistance**

Mr. John J. Zemaitis

Director

Division of Health and

Social Development

Office of the Governor

1800 St. Julian Place

Columbia, South Carolina 29204

(2) Attorney General, Authority to Provide Legal Assistance

Dear Mr. Zemaitis:

You have inquired whether or not the Governor or the Attorney General is authorized to provide legal assistance to developmentally disabled persons in administrative or court actions against State agencies or employees.

It is the opinion of this Office that in the absence of a statute expressly authorizing such assistance—and I am aware of none—neither the Governor nor the Attorney General is empowered to furnish such assistance by personnel of his office or by contract.

Yours very truly,

Joseph C. Coleman

Deputy Attorney General

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