1979 WL 43048 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina June 6, 1979

*1 Frank E. Harrison, Esquire McCormick County Attorney Augusta Street McCormick, South Carolina 29835

Dear Mr. Harrison:

Pursuant to our telephone conversations of yesterday, I am enclosing a copy of an earlier opinion rendered by this Office concerning the validity of a proposed reduction in salary of a county elected official serving the unexpired portion of a predecessor's term. I think that the authority cited therein applies to either a proposed increase or a proposed decrease in the salary of a county supervisor during the particular term of a supervisor irrespective of the number of incumbents who may serve during that term. Section 4-9-410, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, as amended, provides in part that:

The council shall not reduce or increase the compensation of the supervisor during the <u>term</u> of office for which he was elected. [Emphasis added.]

Because this prohibition is tied to the supervisor's term and not to the supervisor himself, my opinion is that the general rule cited in the enclosed opinion applies. <u>Cf.</u>, 63 AM.JUR.2d <u>Public Officers and Employees</u> § 371 at 854 (1972). With kind regards,

Karen LeCraft Henderson Senior Assistant Attorney General

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