

1978 WL 34926 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

June 2, 1978

***1 Re: Opinion Request—Estray Animals**

Mrs. Irene K. Rudnick
Member
House of Representatives
Box 544
Aiken, South Carolina 29801

Dear Mrs. Rudnick:

You have requested an opinion of this Office regarding the application of South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Sections 47-7-10, 47-7-110, 47-7-130, 47-7-140, to domestic and stray dogs.

This Office has been of the opinion that dogs are excluded from Section 47-7-110 (Code of Laws, 1962, Section 6-311), which precludes domestic animals from running at large. For your convenience, an earlier letter from this Office, addressing the question, dated October 6, 1975, is enclosed.

[Section 47-3-20 of the Code](#) of Laws, 1976, grants to the counties the authority to ‘enact ordinances and promulgate regulations for the control of dogs and other domestic pets and to prescribe penalties for violations thereof.’ Also, [Section 47-3-70 of the Code](#) provides that the power of the municipalities to prohibit dogs from running at large is not limited by the statutes. Therefore, it is the opinion of this Office that control of dogs is left to the counties and municipalities.

I hope this has been of some assistance to you.

Very truly yours,

Katherine W. Hill
Assistant Attorney General

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