

1977 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. 261 (S.C.A.G.), 1977 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 77-325, 1977 WL 24664

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

Opinion No. 77-325

October 18, 1977

\*1 Honorable William T. Putnam  
Secretary  
State Budget and Control Board  
?? Hamilton Office Building  
Columbia, South Carolina

Dear Bill:

This will reply to your request for an opinion whether the State Budget and Control Board may hold executive sessions to consider proposed budget requests presented to it, following public meetings at which the requests are presented.

It is the opinion of this office that such executive sessions are specifically permitted by the Freedom of Information Act, Section 30-3-40(b), Code of Laws, 1976, because at such executive sessions the Board will be considering matters involving employment and compensation of individual employees and also to receive administrative briefings from the staff. Executive sessions for such purposes have been specifically approved by the Supreme Court in the case of [Cooper v. Bales, 268 S.C. 270, 233 S.E.2d 306 \(1977\)](#), which construed the Freedom of Information Act.

As required by the Act the Board should vote in public session to conduct executive sessions, setting the time and place of such sessions and stating the purposes thereof. Then, decisions made in an executive session must be confirmed thereafter in a public open session.

The Attorney General concurs in this opinion

Sincerely,

Frank K. Sloan  
Deputy Attorney General

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