

1976 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. 369 (S.C.A.G.), 1976 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 4508, 1976 WL 23125

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

Opinion No. 4508

November 1, 1976

*1 The Honorable David F. McInnis
Member
House of Representatives
Sumter County
Box 1815
Sumter, South Carolina 29150

Dear Mr. McInnis:

Your letter of October 27, 1976, requests the opinion of this Office on whether a study within the Sumter County School Districts on alcohol and drug abuse among students is subject to public inspection under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act of this State.

I do not know the precise details of the study conducted but, in my opinion, it is a matter of public information unless the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission which conducted the study determines that it would be adverse to the public interest to release the study publicly. I am not advised whether this has or has not been done. In the event the Commission should determine that the public release of the study would be adverse to the public interest, that determination would continue unless and until set aside by a court.

It is my opinion, moreover, that the identity of individuals who may be involved is not a matter of public information and such names may be deleted should the report be released. Similarly, any matter contained in the study which might lead to identification of individuals may properly be excluded from public scrutiny.

With best wishes,
Very truly yours,

Daniel R. McLeod
Attorney General

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