

1975 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. 246 (S.C.A.G.), 1975 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 4198, 1975 WL 22495

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

Opinion No. 4198

November 21, 1975

\*1 Mr. Daniel L. Guffey  
Purchasing Specialist  
Appalachian Council of Governments  
P. O. Drawer 6668  
Greenville, South Carolina 29606

Dear Mr. Guffey:

You have requested an opinion from this office as to the meaning of the phrase, 'centralized purchasing system,' used as follows in Section 14-3713 of Act No. 283 of 1975, the 'home rule' legislation:

The [county] council shall provide for a centralized purchasing system for procurement of goods and services required by the county government.

While our office is of the opinion that the intent of Section 14-3713 is to ensure that all county departments and agencies within a specific county utilize uniform procedures in purchasing by requiring the centralization thereof, we do feel that the Act contemplates that the method used to achieve centralization can vary from county to county. The only requirement imposed by Section 14-3713 is that county purchasing be centralized, presumably under one department or agency of the county.

It is my understanding that the South Carolina Association of Counties is presently drafting a model ordinance which would provide for a centralized purchasing system within a particular county. I suggest that you contact Mr. Russell B. Shetterly, Executive, Director of that Association, at Suite 808 South Carolina National Center, 1227 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29211.

With kind regards,

Karen LeCraft Henderson  
Assistant Attorney General

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