

1974 WL 27608 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

January 23, 1974

*1 Hon. J. M. Wingo
Member
House of Representatives
The State House C
Columbia, South Carolina

Dear Representative Wingo:

You have inquired as to whether city and county governing bodies may enter into long term leases of office buildings.

The power of county boards of commissioners to lease offices has been treated in an opinion by the Attorney General and a copy of this opinion is enclosed. The opinion concludes that the power to enter into lease agreements can reasonably be implied from the powers given county governing boards generally by the provisions of Section 14-1 of the 1962 Code of Laws.

The provisions of Section 47-230 of the 1962 Code gives municipalities the power, in the city's name, to:

' . . . purchase, hold, enjoy, and possess, for the use of the city or town in perpetuity or for a term of years, any estate, either real, personal or mixed, and sell, alien and convey any such estate at will.' (emphasis added)

This would apparently confer upon the cities and towns of the state the right to enter into long term leases for corporate purposes.

If we may be of further Assistance to you, please advise us.

Sincerely yours,

A. Camoen Lewis
Assistant Attorney General

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