



State of South Carolina
Office of Comptroller General

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RICHARD ECKSTROM, CPA
COMPTROLLER GENERAL

WILLIAM E. GUNN
CHIEF OF STAFF

December 4, 2015

The Honorable Laurie Slade Funderburk
First Vice-Chair of the Legislative Oversight Committee
P.O. Box 11867
Columbia, SC 29211

Dear Representative Funderburk,

I am pleased to respond to your letter dated November 20th, 2015 requesting certain information related to the South Carolina Code of Laws Section 8-11-80. In meeting your request, the staff of our office researched our files and records for the previous ten years, and I have included requested documentation as an attachment to this correspondence.

From time to time our office receives inquiries from people representing organizations who desire to establish a payroll deduction code for various products they plan to offer to employees of the State of South Carolina. These inquiries are predominately verbal, and we receive most of them through brief telephone inquiry. On rare occasions, an interested party may visit our office and/or communicate via email in which case a written record of the inquiry would exist.

Please find attached copies of all documentation that our office could locate related to your request. During your review, I am confident you will find that our office directed each interested party to the requirements of the South Carolina Code of Laws Section 8-11-80 in order for the party to obtain a payroll deduction code. This is the same direction and guidance that our office provides to those who verbally inquire, but in which cases written documentation is not created. In no instance do we capture, nor do we ever consider the age, race, gender, or nationality of the inquiring party.

Additionally, Section 8-11-80 states ... "nor may the State in any way aid insurance companies in the solicitation of policies by expressly or implicitly endorsing any particular insurance plan or company." Our office's responsibility in this matter is solely to administer Section 8-11-80, which we do in a completely fair and impartial manner.

As always, please let me know of any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Signature Redacted

Richard Eckstrom, CPA
South Carolina Comptroller General

cc: The Honorable Wm. Weston J. Newton
The Honorable Joshua Putnam
The Honorable Robert Q. Williams