



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

GREG ABBOTT

June 20, 2007

The Honorable Jim Keffer
Chair, Committee on Ways & Means
Texas House of Representatives
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768-2910

The Honorable Byron Cook
Chair, Committee on Civil Practices
Texas House of Representatives
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768-2910

Re: Scope of the authority of the Office of Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives
(RQ-0589-GA)

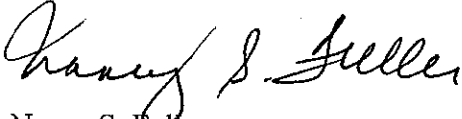
Dear Representative Keffer and Representative Cook:

We have received your request for an attorney general opinion, dated June 18, 2007, and have designated it as Request No. 0589-GA. Please refer to that number in future correspondence with us about this matter. Section 402.042 of the Government Code provides that the Attorney General shall issue an opinion not later than the 180th day after the date that an opinion request is received. TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. § 402.042(c)(2) (Vernon 2005). We received your request on June 18, 2007, setting a due date for your opinion of December 15, 2007. We will respond by that date, or before, if possible.

By copy of this letter we are notifying those listed below of your request and asking them to submit briefs if they care to do so. If you are aware of other interested parties, please let us know as soon as possible. We ask that the briefs be submitted by July 20, 2007 to ensure that the Opinion Committee will have adequate time to review and consider arguments relevant to the request from all interested parties. Written submissions are most useful, as the members of the Opinion Committee are not available to comment on or discuss the merits of legal questions at issue in an opinion request. Parties may request an extension of time to file a brief by calling (512) 463-2110.

The Honorable Jim Keffer - Page 2
The Honorable Byron Cook

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Nancy S. Fuller". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Nancy S. Fuller
Chair, Opinion Committee

NSF/KKO/lnl

Enclosure: Request No. 0589-GA

cc: The Honorable David Dewhurst, Lieutenant Governor, Texas Senate
The Honorable Mario Gallegos, Jr., President Pro Tempore
The Honorable Tom Craddick, Speaker of the House, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Sylvester Turner, Speaker Pro Tempore, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Warren D. Chisum, Chair, Committee on Appropriations, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Frank J. Corte, Jr., Chair, Committee on Defense Affairs & State-Federal Relations, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim Dunnam, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Harold V. Dutton, Jr., Chair, Committee on Juvenile Justice & Family Issues, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Tony Goolsby, Chair, Committee on House Administration
Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Pat Haggerty, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Will Hartnett, Chair, Committee on Judiciary, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Fred Hill, Chair, Committee on Local Government Ways & Means, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Phil S. King, Chair, Committee on Regulated Industries, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Jodie Laubenberg, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Brian McCall, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Rick Noriega, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim Pitts, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Patrick M. Rose, Chair, Committee on Human Services, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Todd Smith, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Robert E. Talton, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Senfronia Thompson, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Terry Keel, Parliamentarian, Texas House of Representatives
The Honorable Ron Wilson, Parliamentarian, Texas House of Representatives
Mr. Mark Brown, Director, Legal Division, Texas Legislative Council
Dean James B. Steinberg, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin
Mr. William A. McMinn, Chairman of the Board, Texas Public Policy Foundation
Mr. Tom Smith, Executive Director, Public Citizen
Ms. Suzy Woodford, Executive Director, Common Cause of Texas
Mr. Ken Anderson, Governor's Appointment Director