




General Assembly
State of Colorado
Denver

MEMORANDUM

TO: Office of Legislative Legal Services

FROM: President Kevin J. Grantham
Speaker Crisanta Duran

DATE: February 13, 2017 

SUBJECT: Procedure for obtaining opinions from the Attorney General

When the Attorney General's office provides legal services to a state agency, the agency must pay for those services from its own appropriations. Each year the General Assembly appropriates a limited amount of money to pay for the preparation of legal opinions that legislators request from the Attorney General.

To assure that these funds are not overexpended, or not spent for duplicative purposes, it has been the long-standing practice to require Senate and House members to obtain the approval of the President and the Speaker before an opinion is requested. We have decided to continue this practice.

If a member wants to ask for an Attorney General opinion, he or she must submit to the President, if a Senator, or the Speaker, if a Representative a draft letter that sets forth the legal question the member wants answered. The question should focus on the specific legal issue or issues the member needs resolved. If you would like to include the background of the legal issues, please do so. The Office of Legislative Legal Services is directed to assist the member with preparing the question and the draft letter for submission to the President or Speaker.

Please notify the Attorney General of this procedure.