

# Senate Ethics Committee

LUKE A. RANKIN  
CHAIRMAN

SUITE 205  
GRESSETTE OFFICE BUILDING  
TELEPHONE: (803) 212-6410  
FAX: (803) 212-6499



LEONARD P. ODOM  
RESEARCH DIRECTOR

LAURIE TRAYWICK  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

THE SENATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
P. O. BOX 142  
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29202

## ADVISORY OPINION 2015-1

The Senate Ethics Committee (the "Committee") hereby directs that, effective October 19, 2015, the only permissible method for a Senate Member or candidate to reimburse himself or herself, or his or her agents or campaign staff, for the use of a personal vehicle to conduct campaign or other unreimbursed office-related travel shall be made utilizing the standard rate for mileage established annually by the Internal Revenue Service for business use of an automobile. The actual mileage used to compute the amount of the reimbursement must not exceed the actual distance traveled and must be computed using the shortest practical route. Members and candidates must maintain a mileage log that includes the dates of travel, beginning and ending locations, the purpose of the travel, and the number of miles traveled. The mileage log must be made available to the Committee upon request.

The standard mileage reimbursement rate for the business use of an automobile for 2015 is 57.5 cents per mile.