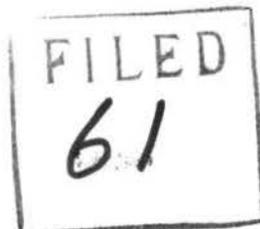


January 23, 1975

Op. No. 140-1976 should always be
sent with this opinion.

OPINION LETTER NO. 61
Answer by Letter - Klaffenbach

Honorable Frank Bild
State Senator, 15th District
c/o Senate Post Office
State Capitol Building
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101



Dear Senator Bild:

This letter is in response to your question asking:

"May a second class county contribute to the cost of a plan, including a plan underwritten by insurance, for furnishing all or a part of hospitalization or medical expenses, life insurance, or similar benefits as a part of the compensation of its employees, and to appropriate and utilize its revenues and other available funds for those purposes?"

We note that Section 49.277, RSMo, provides that a county court in counties of the first class not having a charter form of government may, as a part of the compensation of its employees, contribute to the cost of a plan, including a plan underwritten by insurance, for furnishing all or a part of hospitalization or medical expenses, life insurance, or similar benefits for its employees. We find no such similar statutory authority for a county of the second class.

We believe, however, that our Opinions No. 93-1969 and No. 11-1971, which are enclosed and which are self-explanatory, answer your question.

Very truly yours,

JOHN C. DANFORTH
Attorney General

Enclosures