

Budget Law—Drouth Relief—Counties—Expenditures.

The budget law does not prevent the counties from proceeding under sections 4680-4711, R.C.M. 1921. If the estimate of the expenditure exceeds the sum of \$10,000 the question must be submitted to the electors of the county.

Mr. S. C. Arnold,
Broadview, Montana.

September 9, 1931.

My dear Mr. Arnold:

I have your request for an opinion.

In my opinion, the budget law has not in any manner invalidated sections 4680-4711 R. C. M. 1921. On the contrary, it is my opinion that the county may issue warrants not to exceed \$10,000 to carry out the provisions of said sections under the provisions of said budget law providing for the issuance of emergency warrants in the case of the "relief of a stricken community overtaken by calamity." If the estimate of the expenditure exceeds the sum of \$10,000 then the board, before it is authorized to spend anything under the said sections, must have submitted the question to the electors of the county.

The law requires petitions signed by not less than 100 freeholders of the county to be filed and the board can then meet in special session to consider the petition. Thereafter the procedure depends upon what the estimate of the board is of the amount required to be expended. The procedure is fully set forth in the sections mentioned and should be carefully observed.

Very truly yours,
L. A. FOOT,
Attorney General.