OPINION 55-10

July 6, 1955 (OPINION)

ALDERMEN

RE: Vacancy in Office

This is in reply to your letter of June 22, 1955, requesting our opinion relative to the appointment of aldermen. We call your specific attention to the provisions of Chapter 263 of the 1955 Session Laws. Your question is whether or not in our opinion this section authorizes the filling of a vacancy in the office of the alderman in a city where aldermen are elected at large, by appointment.

It is our opinion that this statute was intended to provide for the appointment of aldermen in all cities coming within the classification there concerned, without regard to whether such cities are divided into wards or not.

It is further our opinion that the reference to residence in wards was adopted originally only for the purpose of establishing qualifications for aldermen in the city divided into wards.

LESLIE R. BURGUM

Attorney General