



PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE CHANGES

Pursuant to the Georgia Administrative Procedures Act, Official Code of Georgia (O.C.G.A.) § 50-13-1, *et seq.*, the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to provide public notice of its intent to adopt, amend, or repeal certain rules other than interpretative rules or general statements of policy. Accordingly, the Department hereby provides notice of its intent to revise its rules and regulations, specifically, Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. r. 111-8-7, Healthcare Facility Regulation, Rules and Regulations for Birth Centers. The proposed rule change reflects an amendment to a rule cited in Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. r. 111-8-7-.22 by deleting a reference to Chapter 111-8-3 which does not presently exist in the rules. This change is being proposed pursuant to the authority granted to the Department of Community Health in O.C.G.A. § 31-2-4 and O.C.G.A. Chapter 31-7, Article 1. An exact copy of the revised rules and a synopsis of the revisions are attached to this public notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

An opportunity for public comment will be held on September 6, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. via Zoom. There will be no in-person attendance at the Department of Community Health. The Zoom meeting ID number is 826 7589 0240 and the event password is “**Open**”. Follow these instructions to join the event:

1. Click the link or copy and paste the link text to a browser:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82675890240?pwd=dzJVcldmMWVtbjA0dnlGVzRpeDRZZz09>

2. Click “Join Now”

To join by telephone:

Call-in toll free number (US/Canada):

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,82675890240# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,82675890240# US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 826 7589 0240



**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH**

Oral comments will be limited to ten (10) minutes per person. Individuals who are disabled and require assistance to participate during this meeting should contact the Office of General Counsel at (404) 657-7195 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

Individuals wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes must do so on or before September 9, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Due to reduced physical staffing at the 2 Peachtree Street location in an attempt to limit the amount of exposure to COVID-19, DCH encourages written public comments submitted in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(2) to be submitted via e-mail to the following e-mail address: **PublicComment@dch.ga.gov**.

Written comments may be submitted via regular mail to the following address:

Attention: Alycia Allgood
Office of General Counsel
Georgia Department of Community Health
2 Peachtree Street, NW, 40th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303

Comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board of Community Health prior to October 13, 2022. The Board will vote on the proposed changes on October 13, 2022.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 11th DAY OF AUGUST, 2022



Caylee Noggle, Commissioner

**RULES OF
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
HEALTHCARE FACILITY REGULATION**

**AMEND CHAPTER 111-8-7-.22
RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR BIRTH CENTERS**

SYNOPSIS OF REVISED RULES

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

The Georgia Department of Community Health proposes to amend and update the Rules and Regulations for Healthcare Facility Regulation, Rules and Regulations for Birth Centers, Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. r. 111-8-7-.22. This rule is being amended pursuant to the authority granted to the Department of Community Health in O.C.G.A. § 31-2-4 and O.C.G.A. Chapter 31-7, Article 1.

MAIN FEATURES OF THE PROPOSED RULE:

The proposed rule change reflects an amendment to a rule cited in Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. r. 111-8-7-.22 that does not exist.

RULES
OF
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
CHAPTER 111-8
HEALTHCARE FACILITY REGULATION
SUBJECT 111-8-7
RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR BIRTH CENTERS
TABLE OF CONTENTS

111-8-7-.22 Applicability of Regulations

111-8-7-.22 Applicability of Regulations

These regulations are applicable to any building or facility which is or shall be classified by the Department of Community Health as a birth center and the services provided there in, and expressly do not modify or revoke any of the provisions of the published rules of the Department of Community Health, Chapter 111-8-40 (Rules and Regulations for Hospitals) or of revisions which may be made to said regulations.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 31-2-4, 31-7-1; O.C.G.A. Chapter 31-7, Article 1.