

SHORT-STAY GENERAL HOSPITAL BEDS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary
August 25, 2025 10:30 AM

Members Present: Dawn Benson, Linda Berger, Chet Bhasin, Dr. Edwin Grimsley, Bill Lee, Christine MacEwen, Robin Rau, Dr. Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber

The Department of Community Health (the “Department”) announced that its website will include updates on the committee’s work at:

<https://dch.georgia.gov/divisionsoffices/office-health-planning/certificate-need-con-technical-advisory-committees>. The Department also informed the committee that public comments can be submitted to: tac.publiccomment@dch.ga.gov.

In response to inquiries from the committee, the Department provided a list of services offered and utilization by hospital and planning area. The Department also provided data on counties in Georgia that do not have a hospital and further discussed new exemptions for hospitals created by House Bill 1339, which was signed by Governor Kemp on April 19, 2024, and amended CON laws.

The committee reviewed and discussed Ga. Comp Rules & Regs r. 111-2-2-.20(3)(a), (e), (f), (g), and (h).

Regarding Ga. Comp Rules & Regs r. 111-2-2-.20(3)(a), the committee discussed the 50-bed minimum requirement for rural hospitals. The committee requested that the Department provide information about similar standards in other states and occupancy rates at hospitals in Georgia.

Regarding Ga. Comp Rules & Regs r. 111-2-2-.20(3)(e), the committee examined the term “favorable consideration” and discussed potential approaches for defining and consistently measuring compliance with this standard.

Regarding Ga. Comp Rules & Regs r. 111-2-2-.20(3)(f), the committee discussed ways to clarify the compliance criteria, particularly regarding documentation of indigent and charity care performance. The committee requested that the Department provide data on Medicare, Medicaid, and Peach Care hospital admissions in Georgia.

Regarding Ga. Comp Rules & Regs r. 111-2-2-.20(3)(g), the committee discussed the requirement that applicants have no history of conditional level Medicare and/or Medicaid certification deficiencies in the past five years. The committee discussed specifying a nationally recognized accrediting body that was only generally referenced in this standard.

Regarding Ga. Comp Rules & Regs r. 111-2-2-.20(3)(h), the committee discussed modernizing the terms referenced in the rule including “emergency room”, and discussed clarifying post-discharge planning requirements.

After inviting additional comments or questions and hearing none, the meeting was adjourned.