



### **Final 2011 Legislative Update Now Available - Major Legislation Becomes Effective July 1**

The Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) has released the final [2011 Legislative Update](#), which includes a brief summary of enacted legislation as well as implementation dates. For a full list of legislation that becomes effective on July 1 that will impact county governments, click [here](#). In addition, ACCG has developed the following legislative overviews, model ordinances and model resolutions to assist counties with implementing several of these new laws:

#### **HB 87 - Illegal Immigration Reform**

- [Overview](#)
- [County Checklist](#)
- Note: ACCG will hold learning sessions later this summer for HB 87.

#### **House Bill 232 - State Ethics Requirements**

- [Overview](#)

#### **HB 256 - Collection and Disbursement of 911 Fees on Prepaid Wireless Service**

- [Overview](#)
- [Dept. of Revenue Form](#)
- [Model Ordinance](#)

#### **SB 10 - Sunday Alcohol Sales**

- [Overview](#)
- [Model Resolution - Beer and Wine](#)
- [Model Resolution - Beer, Wine and Distilled Spirits](#)

#### **SB 157 - Solid Waste Planning and Reporting**

- [Overview](#)
- [Model Resolution](#)

ACCG is holding Membership Services Regional Meetings during the last two weeks of June. As part of these meetings, the ACCG policy team will provide a brief legislative overview, which will focus on new laws, a [checklist of action counties need to take](#) and legislation expected for 2012. Also, attendees will learn how ACCG is saving counties money through preferred partnerships as well as what resources are available to help with redistricting. For a schedule of the meeting dates and locations, click [here](#). To register for a meeting, contact your county clerk or ACCG Member Services Director, Randy Hartmann at 404-522-5022 or at [rhartmann@accg.org](mailto:rhartmann@accg.org).

### **ACCG Summer Policy Committee Meetings Scheduled**

ACCG has scheduled the policy committee meetings to discuss legislative issues that are expected to come before the General Assembly in 2012. On several days, ACCG will host more than one committee meeting to allow county officials to participate in multiple meetings. As part of ACCG's two year policy development process, policy committees will not revamp the entire County Platform this summer. Instead, policy committees will focus their work on key areas that need modification or consideration. County officials and staff attending summer policy committee meetings will receive Standard of Excellence training credit.

#### **July 13, 2011 – Committee Meetings**

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Butts County Administration Building

- 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Economic Development and Transportation Committee Meeting
- 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Natural Resources and Environment Committee Meeting

#### **July 25, 2011 – Committee Meeting**

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Georgia Department of Corrections

State Offices South at Tift Campus

- 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Health and Human Services Committee Meeting
- 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Natural Resources and Environment Committee Meeting

For more information on the Joint Committee Meeting locations, topics scheduled for discussion, invited speakers and registration details, click [here](#).

### **ACCG to Offer SPLOST Training in July**

Due to the infrequent nature of Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) referendums and ongoing changes to the SPLOST law, continuing education on this issue is important. If your county is planning a SPLOST referendum this November or next year during the presidential preference primary, make plans now to attend one of these upcoming ACCG SPLOST training sessions:

#### **July 12, 2011 - SPLOST Training**

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Forsyth County Administration Building

#### **July 14, 2011 - SPLOST Training**

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Turner County Civic Center

These sessions will cover planning for a SPLOST referendum, projects eligible for funding, county/city negotiations, public involvement and other important topics. County officials also are encouraged to invite city officials or business leaders to attend. Space is limited, so all participants are required to preregister. County officials and staff attending this training will receive Standard of Excellence training credit. For more information on this training, click [here](#).

### **General County Government Committee Discusses Pending Open Meeting/Open Records Legislation**

ACCG's General County Government Committee met on Thursday, May 26 at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Monroe County to discuss proposed changes to the state's Open Meetings and Open Records laws. Attendees were provided with a history of these laws and court cases in Georgia. They also reviewed HB 397, the legislation introduced by Attorney General Sam Olens, which is expected to move next legislative session. The group then broke into several discussion groups to formulate recommended changes not only to HB 397, but to current open meetings/records law as well, prioritizing those recommendations. Background information and the prioritized recommendations are listed below:

- [Overview of HB 397](#)
- [PowerPoint Overview of HB 397](#)
- [General County Government Committee's Recommended Changes](#)

## **Counties Attending NACo Encouraged to Get Election Credentials by July 1**

Counties that are active members of the National Association of Counties (NACo) and are attending the annual conference in July must submit elections credentials information by July 1. The credentials are necessary to vote for NACo officers and other business items. Details on submitting credentials were mailed to the chief elected official of each member county in late May. They can also be found at [www.naco.org/credentials](http://www.naco.org/credentials). If a county cannot pick up the elections credentials themselves, they can appoint a proxy, including another Georgia county or the ACCG President.