



## Synopsis of Rules Regarding the Annexation Arbitration Process (HB 1461)

Georgia local governments are provided the opportunity for non-judicial settlement of annexation conflicts via an arbitration process provided by O.C.G.A. § 36-36-110, et seq. Historically, the Department of Community Affairs had very limited responsibilities associated with this body of law focused almost exclusively on the appointment of arbitration panels.

During the 2021-2022 regular session, [HB 1461](#) amended the statute regulating the annexation arbitration process. In this amendment, the requirements for local governments were clarified, the Department’s role was somewhat broadened, and the Department was tasked with creating rules to implement the arbitration process as provided by law.

To address this, the Department will create a wholly new section in its administrative procedures, Chapter 110-12-8.

Full text of the proposed rules can be found on DCA’s website at: <https://www.dca.ga.gov/node/2110/documents/2033>.

Proposed Revisions	
This section contains the purpose and overview of the rules.	Section 110-12-8-.01
This section contains the definitions – clarifying definitions included in the statute as well as new definitions that were not included in statute.	Section 110-12-8-.02
This section details the steps and requirements associated with the arbitration process.	Section 110-12-8-.03
This section addresses issues related to local government compliance with the Department’s rules.	Section 110-12-8-.04