

The Senate Committee on State and Local Governmental Operations - General offered the following substitute to HB 883:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 50-14-1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 meetings open to the public, limitation on action to contest agency action, recording, notice  
3 of time and place, access to minutes, and teleconferences, so as to authorize county boards  
4 of health and community service boards to conduct meetings via teleconference; to authorize  
5 district health directors to attend county board of health meetings by teleconference; to  
6 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 50-14-1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to meetings open  
10 to the public, limitation on action to contest agency action, recording, notice of time and  
11 place, access to minutes, and teleconferences, is amended by adding new subsections to read  
12 as follows:

13 “(h)(1) Community service boards established pursuant to Code Section 37-2-6 shall be  
14 authorized to conduct meetings by teleconference, provided that any such meeting shall  
15 be considered to be conducted in compliance with this chapter so long as the notice  
16 required by this chapter is provided and, if fewer than a quorum of the members of a

17 board thereof are physically present, means have been afforded for the public to have  
18 simultaneous access to the teleconference meeting.

19 (2) The participation by teleconference of members of such board thereof means full  
20 participation in the same manner as if such members were physically present. In the  
21 event such teleconference meeting is a public hearing, and if fewer than a quorum of the  
22 members of a body or committee thereof are physically present, then members of the  
23 public shall be afforded the means to participate fully in the same manner as if such  
24 members of the public were physically present.

25 (i) The district health director for each health district who serves on one or more county  
26 boards of health established pursuant to Code Section 31-3-1 shall be authorized to attend  
27 meetings of such boards by teleconference. A district health director participating in such  
28 board meeting via teleconference shall be considered present at such meeting for the  
29 purpose of establishing a quorum as if he or she was physically present at such meeting."

30

## **SECTION 2.**

31 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.