

Using the ACCG Legislative Tracking Database

The 2018 Legislative Session will begin on Monday, January 8, 2018. During that 40 legislative day period, hundreds of bills that impact county government will be introduced and tracked by our policy staff. To keep our members updated on these issues, ACCG created an online [legislative tracking database](#) which provides bills summaries and tracking levels for all general legislation impacting county government and a listing of all local legislation introduced.

How to Access the Legislative Tracking Database

The legislative tracking database can be publicly accessed through the [Legislative Advocacy](#) webpage on the ACCG website or through the ACCG App, which can be downloaded through certain App stores. ACCG members can also access the database through the ACCG Dashboard and by logging into the ACCG website.

The screenshot displays the ACCG website interface. At the top, there is a "Recent News" section with a headline about Athens Transit's McDuffie. Navigation buttons for "County Login" and "Dashboard Login" are visible. The ACCG logo and tagline "Advancing Georgia's Counties." are prominently displayed. A search bar is located on the right side of the header. The main navigation menu includes "Legislative Advocacy", "Conferences & Education", "Member Services", "Civic Engagement", "Georgia Counties", and "About ACCG". A sidebar on the left contains icons and links for "POLICY COUNCIL", "COUNTY PLATFORM", "BILL TRACKING", "LEGISLATIVE UPDATE", "2017 TOOLKIT", "STATE CAPITOL", "POLICY COMMITTEES", "WEBINARS", and "CAPITOL CONNECTION NEWSLETTER". The main content area features the "ACCG LEGISLATIVE TRACKING DATABASE" section, which includes a description of the tool and a "Bill TRACKING" button. Below this is a "NEWS & NOTES" section with three featured articles: "Weekly Legislative Updates", "Governor's Office of Highway Safety RFP for 2017 Innovative Grants", and "NACo Legislative Priorities". The NACo logo is visible at the bottom left of the page.

How to Use the ACCG Legislative Tracking Database

The database allows the user to track legislation by bill or resolution number, topic/issue area, tracking level, ACCG policy committee, last action date, or by the policy staff member who is tracking the legislation. These features allow the user to find the legislation of interest in a variety of ways—from looking up a specific bill to being able to search for a specific bill or range of bills related to a specific issue, without having to know the actual bill number(s).

There are five tracking levels that are used by ACCG that reflect the association's stance on a particular bill which are support, oppose, neutral, negotiating, or evaluating. While support and oppose are self explanatory, neutral is used for all bills for which the association is not taking a stance (this includes all local legislation), negotiating is used when the policy staff is actively working with legislators and other stakeholders to resolve issues within a bill, and evaluating is used when the policy staff is still learning about or reviewing how a bill may impact county government.

The screenshot displays the ACCG Membership Dashboard for the Georgia 2017-2018 Session. The interface includes a navigation bar with links such as Search, My Info, My Training, Track Bills, Elected Officials, Member Services, ACCG Calendar, BOC Calendar, My Notes, Notes, Help, Exit DB, and Logout. The main content area is titled "Georgia 2017-2018 Session" and features a "Bill Search" section with three search criteria: "By Bill Number" (with a dropdown for "HB" and a "Go" button), "By Legislative Issue" (with a list including 911, Agriculture, Air Quality, Alcohol/Tobacco, Animal Control, and Annexation), and "By Tracking Level" (with color-coded buttons for Support, Oppose, Neutral, Negotiating, and Evaluating). Below this is the "Other Search Options" section, which includes "By ACCG Policy Committee" (with a list including Econ. Dev. & Transportation, General County Government, Health and Human Services, Insurance, Nat. Res. & the Environment, Public Safety and Courts, and Revenue & Finance), "By ACCG Staff Member" (with a list including Clint Mueller, Debra Nesbit, Kathleen Bowen, Larry Ramsey, and Todd Edwards), and "By Last Action Date" (with "Start:" and "End:" input fields and a "Go" button). The footer of the dashboard reads "Copyright @ 1996-2015 Association County Commissioners of Georgia".

All general legislation includes an ACCG staff analysis which should be updated as the legislation moves through the process. Once a particular bill or resolution is accessed through the legislative tracking system, the user will be able to view the staff analysis and can choose to view the full text of the current legislation, who authored the legislation, the status history, and can view previous versions of the legislation.

ACCG
Membership Dashboard

Search | My Info | My Training | Track Bills | Elected Officials | Member Services | ACCG Calendar | BOC Calendar | My Notes | Notes | Help | Exit DB | Logout

HB ▾ Go
Select a different bill

HB 0976 - Records Retention Requirements for Law Enforcement Body Camera or Dash Camera Video

Post Your Comments

Tracking Level: Support

Sponsor: Hitchens, Bill 161st (R)

Last Action: 7/1/2016 - Effective Date

House Committee: PS&HS

Senate Committee: JUDYNC

Assigned To: Debra Nesbit

<u>General County Government</u>	<u>Next Bill</u>
<u>Law Enforcement</u>	<u>Next Bill</u>
<u>Open Records/Meetings Act</u>	<u>Next Bill</u>
<u>Public Safety and Courts</u>	<u>Next Bill</u>

Staff Analysis of the Legislation

This legislation establishes a records retention schedule for video recordings from law enforcement body worn cameras or devices located on or in a law enforcement vehicle. These recordings are required to be kept for 180 days unless the recording is part of a criminal investigation, shows a car accident, shows the arrest or detainment of an individual, shows a law enforcement officer's use of force, or can reasonably be anticipated to be necessary for pending litigation, in which case it must be kept for 30 months. If litigation is commenced within that 30 months the video must be kept until the lawsuit is completed. Counties may charge an additional \$10 to make copies of videos.

[Bill Summary from the State Site](#) - [Click for the State Summary Page](#) [Click for Current Full Text](#)

Georgia General Assembly
Legislation

House of Representatives | State Senate | **Legislation** | Joint Offices

While ACCG does not track local legislation, it is included in the legislative tracking database for the use of our members. A top priority of the policy interns is to track local legislation and send notifications via email to the clerk, attorney, and legislative coordinator of each impacted county to ensure that your county is aware of the introduction of that legislation. For general information about local legislation, ACCG provides an overview of the local legislation process and notice requirements on the [Legal webpage](#).

In addition to the legislative tracking database, ACCG also provides a weekly overview of pending legislation through the [Legislative Update](#). This publication includes up-to-date bill descriptions and summaries, highlights areas of concern, and often requests feedback from counties on certain issues. All major bills that the association is following will be included.

Any questions you may have regarding pending legislation may be directed to the policy staff assigned to the legislation or policy administrative assistant, Nicole Logan, at nlogan@accg.org or at 404-522-5022.