

11 September 2015

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**  
**“Midwifery”**  
**Revision to Regulation 511-5-1**

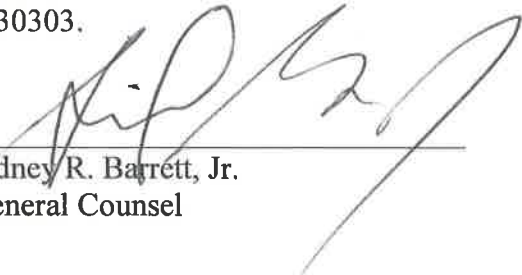
The Department of Public Health proposes the attached amendment to DPH Regulation 511-5-1, pursuant to its authority under O.C.G.A. Sections 31-2A-6 and 31-26-3.

This amendment is intended to conform the Department’s regulations to existing practice. For over twenty years, the Department’s regulations have permitted the practice of midwifery only by persons who are certified by the Georgia Board of Nursing to practice as certified nurse midwives. However, the Department’s regulations suggested that a second certification, to be issued by the Department or by the County Boards of Health, would be needed. That has not been the practice for many years, and the proposed change is intended to make clear that no such second certification is necessary. No substantive change is intended by this proposal.

Interested persons may submit comments on these proposed revisions in writing addressed to:

Sidney R. Barrett, Jr.  
General Counsel  
Georgia Department of Public Health  
2 Peachtree Street, NW, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Atlanta, GA 30303

Comment may also be presented in person at a public meeting scheduled for 1:30 p.m., 14 October 2015, in “Adina’s Room, room 9-260 on the ninth floor of 2 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.



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Sidney R. Barrett, Jr.  
General Counsel



**RULES  
OF  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**CHAPTER 511-5-1  
MIDWIFERY**

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**511-5-1-.01 Definitions.**

(1) **Midwife** means a person who is not a physician licensed under the laws of Georgia, and who is regularly engaged in attending women in childbirth or holds himself or herself out to the public as providing the services of a midwife, whether or not for consideration.

(2) **Midwifery** means and includes any act or practice of attending women in childbirth, whether or not for consideration. Midwifery also includes the independent management of care of newborns, and the antepartal, intrapartal, or postpartal care of women.

Authority: O.C.G.A. Secs. 31-2A-6, 31-26-3.

**511-5-1-.02 Authority to Practice as a Midwife.**

No person shall practice midwifery, or hold himself or herself out to the public as a midwife, unless that person has a current certification from the Georgia Board of Nursing to practice as a Certified Nurse-Midwife in accordance with Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 410-12-.02 "Rules for Certified Nurse-Midwives." Such certification from the Board of Nursing shall constitute the certification required under Code Section 31-26-2, and no additional certification from the Department of Public Health or from a County Board of Health shall be required.

Authority: O.C.G.A. Secs. 31-2A-6, 31-26-3.