

SENATE BILL 730

By Watson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 1-3-105; Title 30, Chapter 2 and Title 67, Chapter 5, relative to public notices.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 1-3-105, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

() "Newspaper of general circulation" may also include an electronically published newspaper that consists in significant part of local news, commentary, and other items of general interest within the county; provided, however, the electronically published newspaper must:

(A) Bear a title or name identifying the newspaper with the county or an associated locality;

(B) Have an average readership of a number of viewers or subscribers which is equal to at least a majority of the residents of the county;

(C) Be regularly issued at least once each week; and

(D) Undertake appropriate actions to adequately inform and remind the county-at-large regarding the newspaper's:

(i) Internet web site address; and

(ii) Posting of notices required to be posted by the various provisions of this code.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 30-2-306(a), is amended by designating the current language as subdivision (1) and by adding the following new language, to be designated as subdivision (2):

(2) As used in this section, "some newspaper of the county" may include an electronically published newspaper that consists in significant part of local news, commentary, and other items of general interest within the county; provided, however, the electronically published newspaper must:

(A) bear a title or name identifying the newspaper with the county or an associated locality;

(B) Have an average readership of a number of viewers or subscribers which is equal to at least a majority of the residents of the county;

(C) Be regularly issued at least once each week; and

(D) Undertake appropriate actions to adequately inform and remind the county-at-large regarding the newspaper's:

(i) Internet web site address; and

(ii) Posting of notices pursuant to this section.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 67-5-2002(a), is amended by designating the current language as subdivision (1) and by adding the following new language, to be designated as subdivision (2):

(2) As used in this section, the term "newspaper of general circulation, published in the county," may include an electronically published newspaper that consists in significant part of local news, commentary, and other items of general interest within the county; provided, however, the electronically published newspaper must:

(A) bear a title or name identifying the newspaper with the county or an associated locality;

(B) Have an average readership of a number of viewers or subscribers which is equal to at least a majority of the residents of the county;

(C) Be regularly issued at least once each week; and

(D) Undertake appropriate actions to adequately inform and remind the county-at-large regarding the newspaper's:

(i) Internet web site address; and

(ii) Posting of notices pursuant to this section.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 67-5-2502(a)(2), is amended by adding the following language to the end of the subdivision:

As used in this section, "newspaper" may include an electronically published newspaper consisting in significant part of local news, commentary, and other items of general interest within the county; provided, however, the electronically published newspaper must:

(A) bear a title or name identifying the newspaper with the county or an associated locality;

(B) Have an average readership of a number of viewers or subscribers which is equal to at least a majority of the residents of the county;

(C) Be regularly issued at least once each week; and

(D) Undertake appropriate actions to adequately inform and remind the county-at-large regarding the newspaper's:

(i) Internet web site address; and

(ii) Posting of notices pursuant to this section.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009, the public welfare requiring it.