2011

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to effective public notices by
3	governmental entities; creating s. 50.0311, F.S.; defining
4	the term "publicly accessible website"; authorizing a
5	local government to use its publicly accessible website
6	for legally required advertisements and public notices;
7	providing conditions for such use; providing for optional
8	receipt of legally required advertisements and public
9	notices by first-class mail or e-mail; providing
10	requirements for advertisements and public notices
11	published on a publicly accessible website; amending s.
12	50.011, F.S.; providing that a notice, advertisement, or
13	publication on a publicly accessible website of a local
14	government in accordance with s. 50.0311, F.S.,
15	constitutes legal notice; amending s. 50.021, F.S.;
16	providing that advertisements directed by law or order or
17	decree of court to be made in a county in which no
18	newspaper is published may be made by publication on a
19	publicly accessible website; amending s. 50.051, F.S.;
20	providing clarifying provisions; amending s. 50.061, F.S.;
21	providing clarifying provisions; amending s. 100.342,
22	F.S.; providing for notice of special election or
23	referendum on a publicly accessible website; amending s.
24	125.66, F.S.; providing for notice of consideration of an
25	ordinance by a board of county commissioners to be
26	published on a publicly accessible website; requiring
27	maintenance of the advertisement for a specified period;
28	providing clarifying provisions; amending s. 129.03, F.S.;
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providing for the advertisement of a summary statement of 29 adopted tentative county budgets on a publicly accessible 30 31 website; amending s. 129.06, F.S.; providing for 32 advertisement of a public hearing relating to the amendment of a county budget on a publicly accessible 33 34 website; amending s. 153.79, F.S.; providing for public 35 advertisement by a county water and sewer system district of projects to construct, reconstruct, acquire, or improve 36 a water system or a sewer system, and of a call for sealed 37 38 bids for such projects, on a publicly accessible website; 39 amending s. 159.32, F.S.; providing for advertisement for competitive bids for contracts for the construction of a 40 project under the Florida Industrial Development Financing 41 42 Act on a publicly accessible website; amending s. 162.12, 43 F.S.; providing for optional serving of notice by a code 44 enforcement board of a violation of a county or municipal code via a publicly accessible website; amending s. 45 163.3184, F.S.; providing for notice of public hearings on 46 47 the adoption of a local government comprehensive plan or plan amendment or the approval of a compliance agreement 48 49 under the Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land 50 Development Regulation Act via a publicly accessible 51 website; amending s. 166.041, F.S.; providing for notice 52 of adoption of a municipal ordinance via a publicly 53 accessible website; providing clarifying provisions; 54 amending s. 170.05, F.S.; providing for publication on a 55 publicly accessible website of a resolution relating to 56 municipal public improvements financed by special

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57 assessments; amending s. 170.07, F.S.; providing for 58 publication on a publicly accessible website of notice of 59 hearing on municipal public improvements financed by 60 special assessments; amending s. 180.24, F.S.; providing for advertisement via a publicly accessible website of 61 62 specified construction contracts for utilities or 63 extensions to a previously constructed utility; amending s. 197.3632, F.S.; providing for publication on a publicly 64 65 accessible website of a local government's notice of 66 intent to use the uniform method of collecting non-ad 67 valorem assessments; amending s. 200.065, F.S.; providing for advertisement on a publicly accessible website of a 68 69 taxing authority's intent to adopt a millage rate and 70 budget; providing for advertisement on a publicly 71 accessible website of the intention of a specified 72 multicounty taxing authority to adopt a tentative budget 73 and millage rate; providing clarifying and conforming 74 provisions; providing for notice via a publicly accessible website of correction of a specified error contained in a 75 76 notice of proposed property taxes mailed to taxpayers; 77 amending s. 255.0525, F.S.; providing for advertisement 78 via a publicly accessible website for the solicitation of 79 competitive bids or proposals for construction projects of a county, municipality, or other political subdivision 80 81 which are projected to exceed specified costs; amending s. 380.06, F.S.; providing for publication of an 82 83 advertisement on a publicly accessible website of a public 84 hearing by a local government on an areawide development Page 3 of 36

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2011 of regional impact under the Florida Environmental Land and Water Management Act of 1972; amending s. 403.7049, F.S.; prescribing procedures for fulfilling public disclosure system requirements with respect to the duty of a municipality to disclose costs for solid waste management; amending s. 403.973, F.S.; redefining the term "duly noticed" to include publication on a publicly accessible website; providing conforming provisions; amending s. 420.9075, F.S.; providing for advertisement of notice on a publicly accessible website of funding availability through a local housing assistance plan under the State Housing Initiatives Partnership Act; providing an effective date. Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: Section 1. Section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, is created to read: 50.0311 Publication of advertisements and public notices on a local government's publicly accessible website and government access channels.-(1) For purposes of notices and advertisements required by statute to be published by a local government, the term "publicly accessible website" means a county or municipal government's official website that is accessible via the Internet. (2) If specifically authorized by ordinance, a local government may use its website for legally required Page 4 of 36

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113	advertisements and public notices if:
114	(a) A public library or other governmental facility
115	providing free access to the Internet during regular business
116	hours exists within the jurisdictional boundaries of such county
117	or municipality;
118	(b) The local government provides notice to its residents
119	at least once per year in a newspaper of general circulation,
120	the county or municipality's newsletter or periodical, or
121	another publication that is mailed or delivered to all residents
122	or property owners throughout the local government's
123	jurisdiction, indicating that residents may receive legally
124	required advertisements and public notices from the local
125	government by first-class mail or e-mail upon registering their
126	name and address or e-mail address with the local governmental
127	entity; and
128	(c) The local government maintains a registry of names,
129	addresses, and e-mail addresses of residents who request in
130	writing that they receive legally required advertisements and
131	public notices from the local government by first-class mail or
132	e-mail.
133	(3) Advertisements and public notices published on a
134	publicly accessible website shall be conspicuously placed on the
135	website's homepage or accessible through a direct link from the
136	homepage. The advertisement shall indicate the date on which the
137	advertisement was first published on the publicly accessible
138	website.
139	(4) The local government that has a government access
140	channel authorized under s. 610.109 may also include on its
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141 government access channel a summary of all advertisements and 142 public notices that are published on its website.

143 Section 2. Section 50.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to 144 read:

145 50.011 Where and in what language legal notices to be 146 published.-Whenever by statute an official or legal 147 advertisement or a publication, or notice in a newspaper has 148 been or is directed or permitted in the nature of or in lieu of 149 process, or for constructive service, or in initiating, 150 assuming, reviewing, exercising or enforcing jurisdiction or 151 power, or for any purpose, including all legal notices and 152 advertisements of sheriffs and tax collectors, the 153 contemporaneous and continuous intent and meaning of such 154 legislation all and singular, existing or repealed, is and has 155 been and is hereby declared to be and to have been, and the rule 156 of interpretation is and has been, a publication in a newspaper 157 printed and published periodically once a week or oftener, 158 containing at least 25 percent of its words in the English 159 language, entered or qualified to be admitted and entered as 160 periodicals matter at a post office in the county where 161 published, for sale to the public generally, available to the 162 public generally for the publication of official or other 163 notices and customarily containing information of a public 164 character or of interest or of value to the residents or owners of property in the county where published, or of interest or of 165 166 value to the general public. Notwithstanding any provisions to 167 the contrary, and as specifically authorized by s. 50.0311, a notice, advertisement, or publication on a publicly accessible 168

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169	website of a local government in accordance with s. 50.0311
170	constitutes legal notice.
171	Section 3. Section 50.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to
172	read:
173	50.021 Publication when no newspaper in countyWhen any
174	law, or order or decree of court, shall direct advertisements to
175	be made in any county and there be no newspaper published in the
176	said county, the advertisement may be made, in the case of a
177	county or municipality, by publishing such advertisement on a
178	publicly accessible website maintained by the entity responsible
179	for publication or posting three copies thereof in three
180	different places in said county, one of which shall be at the
181	front door of the courthouse, and by publication in the nearest
182	county in which a newspaper is published.
183	Section 4. Section 50.051, Florida Statutes, is amended to
184	read:
185	50.051 Proof of publication; form of uniform affidavit
186	The printed form upon which all such affidavits establishing
187	proof of publication <u>in a newspaper</u> are to be executed shall be
188	substantially as follows:
189	
190	NAME OF NEWSPAPER
191	Published (Weekly or Daily)
192	(Town or City) (County) FLORIDA
193	
194	STATE OF FLORIDA
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196	COUNTY OF:
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197 Before the undersigned authority personally appeared, 198 who on oath says that he or she is of the, a 199 newspaper published at in County, Florida; that the 200 attached copy of advertisement, being a in the matter of 201 in the Court, was published in said newspaper in the 202 issues of 203 Affiant further says that the said is a newspaper 204 published at, in said County, Florida, and that the 205 said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in 206 said County, Florida, each and has been entered as 207 periodicals matter at the post office in, in said 208 County, Florida, for a period of 1 year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement; and affiant 209 210 further says that he or she has neither paid nor promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or 211 212 refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for 213 publication in the said newspaper. 214 215 Sworn to and subscribed before me this day of, ... (year) ..., by, who is personally known to me or who has 216 217 produced (type of identification) as identification. 218 219 ... (Signature of Notary Public) ... 220 221 222 ... (Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)... 223 ... (Notary Public) ... 224

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225 Section 5. Subsection (4) of section 50.061, Florida 226 Statutes, is amended to read:

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50.061 Amounts chargeable.-

(4) All official public notices and legal advertisements
published in a newspaper shall be charged and paid for on the
basis of 6-point type on 6-point body, unless otherwise
specified by statute.

232 Section 6. Section 100.342, Florida Statutes, is amended 233 to read:

234 100.342 Notice of special election or referendum.-In any 235 special election or referendum not otherwise provided for there 236 shall be at least 30 days' notice of the election or referendum 237 by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, district, or municipality, as the case may be, or, in 238 239 the case of a county or municipality, publication on a publicly 240 accessible website maintained by the local government responsible for publication and published daily during the 5 241 242 weeks immediately preceding the election or referendum. If 243 advertised in the newspaper, the publication shall be made at 244 least twice, once in the fifth week and once in the third week 245 prior to the week in which the election or referendum is to be 246 held. If there is no newspaper of general circulation in the 247 county, district, or municipality and publication is not made on a publicly accessible website maintained by the local government 248 responsible for publication, the notice shall be posted in no 249 250 fewer less than five places within the territorial limits of the 251 county, district, or municipality.

252 Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) and paragraph Page 9 of 36

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(b) of subsection (4) of section 125.66, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

255 125.66 Ordinances; enactment procedure; emergency 256 ordinances; rezoning or change of land use ordinances or 257 resolutions.-

258 (2) (a) The regular enactment procedure shall be as 259 follows: The board of county commissioners at any regular or 260 special meeting may enact or amend any ordinance, except as provided in subsection (4), if notice of intent to consider such 261 262 ordinance is given at least 10 days before the prior to said 263 meeting on a publicly accessible website maintained by the 264 county or by publication in a newspaper of general circulation 265 in the county. If advertised on a publicly accessible website, 266 the advertisement shall be published daily during the 10 days immediately preceding the meeting. A copy of such notice shall 267 268 be kept available for public inspection during the regular 269 business hours of the office of the clerk of the board of county 270 commissioners. The notice of proposed enactment shall state the 271 date, time, and place of the meeting; the title or titles of 272 proposed ordinances; and the place or places within the county 273 where such proposed ordinances may be inspected by the public. 274 The notice shall also advise that interested parties may appear 275 at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed 276 ordinance.

(4) Ordinances or resolutions, initiated by other than the
county, that change the actual zoning map designation of a
parcel or parcels of land shall be enacted pursuant to
subsection (2). Ordinances or resolutions that change the actual

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281 list of permitted, conditional, or prohibited uses within a 282 zoning category, or ordinances or resolutions initiated by the 283 county that change the actual zoning map designation of a parcel 284 or parcels of land shall be enacted pursuant to the following 285 procedure:

(b) In cases in which the proposed ordinance or resolution changes the actual list of permitted, conditional, or prohibited uses within a zoning category, or changes the actual zoning map designation of a parcel or parcels of land involving 10 contiguous acres or more, the board of county commissioners shall provide for public notice and hearings as follows:

292 The board of county commissioners shall hold two 1. 293 advertised public hearings on the proposed ordinance or 294 resolution. At least one hearing shall be held after 5 p.m. on a weekday, unless the board of county commissioners, by a majority 295 296 plus one vote, elects to conduct that hearing at another time of 297 day. The first public hearing shall be held at least 7 days 298 after the day that the first advertisement is published. The 299 second hearing shall be held at least 10 days after the first 300 hearing and shall be advertised at least 5 days prior to the 301 public hearing.

2. The required <u>newspaper</u> advertisements shall be no less than 2 columns wide by 10 inches long in a standard size or a tabloid size newspaper, and the headline in the advertisement shall be in a type no smaller than 18 point. The <u>newspaper</u> advertisement shall not be placed in that portion of the newspaper where legal notices and classified advertisements appear. The <u>newspaper</u> advertisement shall be placed in a

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309 newspaper of general paid circulation in the county and of 310 general interest and readership in the community pursuant to 311 chapter 50, not one of limited subject matter. It is the 312 legislative intent that, whenever possible, the newspaper 313 advertisement shall appear in a newspaper that is published at 314 least 5 days a week unless the only newspaper in the community 315 is published less than 5 days a week. The newspaper advertisement shall be in substantially the following form: 316 317 318 NOTICE OF (TYPE OF) CHANGE 319 320 The ... (name of local governmental unit) ... proposes to 321 adopt the following by ordinance or resolution:...(title of 322 ordinance or resolution) 323 A public hearing on the ordinance or resolution will be 324 held on ... (date and time) ... at ... (meeting place) 325 326 Except for amendments which change the actual list of permitted, 327 conditional, or prohibited uses within a zoning category, the 328 advertisement shall contain a geographic location map which 329 clearly indicates the area within the local government covered 330 by the proposed ordinance or resolution. The map shall include 331 major street names as a means of identification of the general 332 area. 333 3. In lieu of publishing the advertisements set out in 334 this paragraph, the board of county commissioners may mail a 335 notice to each person owning real property within the area 336 covered by the ordinance or resolution. Such notice shall Page 12 of 36

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337 clearly explain the proposed ordinance or resolution and shall 338 notify the person of the time, place, and location of both 339 public hearings on the proposed ordinance or resolution.

340 Section 8. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 341 129.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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129.03 Preparation and adoption of budget.-

343 No later than 15 days after certification of value by (3) 344 the property appraiser pursuant to s. 200.065(1), the county 345 budget officer, after tentatively ascertaining the proposed 346 fiscal policies of the board for the ensuing fiscal year, shall 347 prepare and present to the board a tentative budget for the ensuing fiscal year for each of the funds provided in this 348 349 chapter, including all estimated receipts, taxes to be levied, 350 and balances expected to be brought forward and all estimated 351 expenditures, reserves, and balances to be carried over at the 352 end of the year.

353 Upon receipt of the tentative budgets and completion (b) 354 of any revisions made by the board, the board shall prepare a 355 statement summarizing all of the adopted tentative budgets. This 356 summary statement shall show, for each budget and the total of 357 all budgets, the proposed tax millages, the balances, the 358 reserves, and the total of each major classification of receipts 359 and expenditures, classified according to the classification of 360 accounts prescribed by the appropriate state agency. The board 361 shall cause this summary statement to be advertised one time in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county, on a 362 363 publicly accessible website maintained by the county, or by 364 posting at the courthouse door if there is no such newspaper or Page 13 of 36

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365 website, and the advertisement shall appear adjacent to the 366 advertisement required pursuant to s. 200.065. 367 Section 9. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 368 129.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 369 129.06 Execution and amendment of budget.-370 The board at any time within a fiscal year may amend a (2)371 budget for that year, and may within the first 60 days of a 372 fiscal year amend the budget for the prior fiscal year, as 373 follows: 374 (f) If an amendment to a budget is required for a purpose 375 not specifically authorized in paragraphs (a)-(e), unless 376 otherwise prohibited by law, the amendment may be authorized by resolution or ordinance of the board of county commissioners 377 378 adopted following a public hearing. The public hearing must be 379 advertised at least 2 days, but not more than 5 days, before the 380 date of the hearing. The advertisement must appear on a publicly 381 accessible website maintained by the county or in a newspaper of paid general circulation and must identify the name of the 382 383 taxing authority, the date, place, and time of the hearing, and 384 the purpose of the hearing. If advertised in the newspaper, the 385 public hearing must be advertised at least 2 days, but not more 386 than 5 days, before the date of the hearing. If advertised on a 387 publicly accessible website, the notice must be published daily 388 during the 5 days immediately preceding the hearing. The advertisement must also identify each budgetary fund to be 389 amended, the source of the funds, the use of the funds, and the 390 391 total amount of each budget. 392 Section 10. Section 153.79, Florida Statutes, is amended

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393 to read:

394 153.79 Contracts for construction of improvements, sealed 395 bids.-All contracts let, awarded, or entered into by the 396 district for the construction, reconstruction, or acquisition or 397 improvement of a water system or a sewer system or both or any 398 part thereof, if the amount thereof shall exceed \$1,000, shall 399 be awarded only after public advertisement and call for sealed 400 bids therefor on a publicly accessible website maintained by the 401 county or τ in a newspaper published in the county circulating in 402 the district, or, if there is be no such website or newspaper, 403 then in a newspaper published in the state and circulating in 404 the district. If advertised in the newspaper, such advertisement 405 shall to be published at least once at least 3 weeks before the 406 date set for the receipt of such bids. If advertised on a 407 publicly accessible website, such advertisement shall be 408 published daily during the 3 weeks immediately preceding the 409 date set for the receipt of such bids. Such advertisements for 410 bids in addition to the other necessary and pertinent matter 411 shall state in general terms the nature and description of the improvement or improvements to be undertaken and shall state 412 413 that detailed plans and specifications for such work are on file 414 for inspection in the office of the district clerk and copies 415 thereof shall be furnished to any interested party upon payment 416 of reasonable charges to reimburse the district for its expenses 417 in providing such copies. The award shall be made to the 418 responsible and competent bidder or bidders who shall offer to 419 undertake the improvements at the lowest cost to the district and such bidder or bidders shall be required to file bond for 420

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421 the full and faithful performance of such work and the execution 422 of any such contract in such amount as the district board shall 423 determine, and in all other respects the letting of such 424 construction contracts shall comply with applicable provisions 425 of the general laws relating to the letting of public contracts. 426 Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prevent the district 427 from hiring or retaining such consulting engineers, attorneys, 428 financial experts or other technicians as it shall determine, in 429 its discretion, or from undertaking any construction work with its own resources, without any such public advertisement. 430

431 Section 11. Section 159.32, Florida Statutes, is amended432 to read:

159.32 Construction contracts.-Contracts for the 433 434 construction of the project may be awarded by the local agency 435 in such manner as in its judgment will best promote free and 436 open competition, including advertisement for competitive bids 437 in a newspaper of general circulation within the boundaries of 438 the local agency or on a publicly accessible website maintained 439 by the county; however, if the local agency shall determine that 440 the purposes of this part will be more effectively served, the 441 local agency in its discretion may award or cause to be awarded 442 contracts for the construction of any project, or any part 443 thereof, upon a negotiated basis as determined by the local 444 agency. The local agency shall prescribe bid security requirements and other procedures in connection with the award 445 446 of such contracts as in its judgment shall protect the public 447 interest. The local agency may by written contract engage the services of the lessee, purchaser, or prospective lessee or 448

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449 purchaser of any project in the construction of the project and 450 may provide in the contract that the lessee, purchaser, or 451 prospective lessee or purchaser may act as an agent of, or an 452 independent contractor for, the local agency for the performance 453 of the functions described therein, subject to such conditions 454 and requirements consistent with the provisions of this part as 455 shall be prescribed in the contract, including functions such as 456 the acquisition of the site and other real property for the 457 project; the preparation of plans, specifications, and contract documents; the award of construction and other contracts upon a 458 459 competitive or negotiated basis; the construction of the 460 project, or any part thereof, directly by the lessee, purchaser, 461 or prospective lessee or purchaser; the inspection and 462 supervision of construction; the employment of engineers, 463 architects, builders, and other contractors; and the provision 464 of money to pay the cost thereof pending reimbursement by the 465 local agency. Any such contract may provide that the local 466 agency may, out of proceeds of bonds, make advances to or 467 reimburse the lessee, purchaser, or prospective lessee or 468 purchaser for its costs incurred in the performance of those 469 functions, and shall set forth the supporting documents required 470 to be submitted to the local agency and the reviews, 471 examinations, and audits that shall be required in connection 472 therewith to assure compliance with the provisions of this part 473 and the contract. 474 Section 12. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section

475 162.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

476 162.12 Notices.-

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477 In addition to providing notice as set forth in (2)478 subsection (1), at the option of the code enforcement board, 479 notice may also be served by publication or posting, as follows: 480 (a)1. Such notice shall be published once during each week 481 for 4 consecutive weeks (four publications being sufficient) in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the code 482 483 enforcement board is located or daily during the 4 weeks 484 immediately preceding the hearing on a publicly accessible 485 website maintained by the local government. The website and 486 newspaper shall meet such requirements as are prescribed under 487 chapter 50 for legal and official advertisements. 488 Proof of newspaper publication shall be made as 2. 489 provided in ss. 50.041 and 50.051. 490 491 Evidence that an attempt has been made to hand deliver or mail 492 notice as provided in subsection (1), together with proof of 493 publication or posting as provided in subsection (2), shall be 494 sufficient to show that the notice requirements of this part 495 have been met, without regard to whether or not the alleged 496 violator actually received such notice. 497 Section 13. Paragraph (b) of subsection (15) and paragraph 498 (c) of subsection (16) of section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, 499 are amended to read: 500 163.3184 Process for adoption of comprehensive plan or plan amendment.-501 502 (15) PUBLIC HEARINGS.-The local governing body shall hold at least two 503 (b) 504 advertised public hearings on the proposed comprehensive plan or Page 18 of 36

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505 plan amendment as follows:

506 1. The first public hearing shall be held at the 507 transmittal stage pursuant to subsection (3). It shall be held 508 on a weekday at least 7 days after the day that the first 509 advertisement is published <u>or after the notice of the first</u> 510 <u>public hearing is initially published on the publicly accessible</u> 511 <u>website</u>.

512 2. The second public hearing shall be held at the adoption 513 stage pursuant to subsection (7). It shall be held on a weekday 514 at least 5 days after the day that the second advertisement is 515 published <u>or after the notice of the second public hearing is</u> 516 initially published on the publicly accessible website.

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(16) COMPLIANCE AGREEMENTS.-

518 Before Prior to its execution of a compliance (C) 519 agreement, the local government must approve the compliance 520 agreement at a public hearing advertised at least 10 days before 521 the public hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the 522 area or daily during the 10 days immediately preceding the 523 hearing on a publicly accessible website maintained by the local 524 government in accordance with the advertisement requirements of 525 subsection (15).

526 Section 14. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (3) of 527 section 166.041, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

528 166.041 Procedures for adoption of ordinances and 529 resolutions.-

(3) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (c), a proposed
ordinance may be read by title, or in full, on at least 2
separate days and shall, at least 10 days <u>before</u> prior to

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533 adoption, be noticed once in a newspaper of general circulation 534 in the municipality or noticed daily during the 10 days 535 immediately preceding the adoption on a publicly accessible 536 website maintained by the municipality. The notice of proposed 537 enactment shall state the date, time, and place of the meeting; 538 the title or titles of proposed ordinances; and the place or 539 places within the municipality where such proposed ordinances 540 may be inspected by the public. The notice shall also advise 541 that interested parties may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance. 542

543 Ordinances initiated by other than the municipality (C) that change the actual zoning map designation of a parcel or 544 545 parcels of land shall be enacted pursuant to paragraph (a). 546 Ordinances that change the actual list of permitted, 547 conditional, or prohibited uses within a zoning category, or 548 ordinances initiated by the municipality that change the actual 549 zoning map designation of a parcel or parcels of land shall be 550 enacted pursuant to the following procedure:

551 1. In cases in which the proposed ordinance changes the 552 actual zoning map designation for a parcel or parcels of land 553 involving less than 10 contiguous acres, the governing body 554 shall direct the clerk of the governing body to notify by mail 555 each real property owner whose land the municipality will 556 redesignate by enactment of the ordinance and whose address is 557 known by reference to the latest ad valorem tax records. The 558 notice shall state the substance of the proposed ordinance as it 559 affects that property owner and shall set a time and place for one or more public hearings on such ordinance. Such notice shall 560

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be given at least 30 days prior to the date set for the public hearing, and a copy of the notice shall be kept available for public inspection during the regular business hours of the office of the clerk of the governing body. The governing body shall hold a public hearing on the proposed ordinance and may, upon the conclusion of the hearing, immediately adopt the ordinance.

2. In cases in which the proposed ordinance changes the actual list of permitted, conditional, or prohibited uses within a zoning category, or changes the actual zoning map designation of a parcel or parcels of land involving 10 contiguous acres or more, the governing body shall provide for public notice and hearings as follows:

574 The local governing body shall hold two advertised a. 575 public hearings on the proposed ordinance. At least one hearing 576 shall be held after 5 p.m. on a weekday, unless the local 577 governing body, by a majority plus one vote, elects to conduct 578 that hearing at another time of day. The first public hearing 579 shall be held at least 7 days after the day that the first 580 advertisement is published. The second hearing shall be held at 581 least 10 days after the first hearing and shall be advertised at 582 least 5 days prior to the public hearing.

583 b. The required <u>newspaper</u> advertisements shall be no less 584 than 2 columns wide by 10 inches long in a standard size or a 585 tabloid size newspaper, and the headline in the advertisement 586 shall be in a type no smaller than 18 point. The <u>newspaper</u> 587 advertisement shall not be placed in that portion of the 588 newspaper where legal notices and classified advertisements

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589 appear. The newspaper advertisement shall be placed in a 590 newspaper of general paid circulation in the municipality and of 591 general interest and readership in the municipality, not one of 592 limited subject matter, pursuant to chapter 50. It is the 593 legislative intent that, whenever possible, the newspaper 594 advertisement appear in a newspaper that is published at least 5 595 days a week unless the only newspaper in the municipality is 596 published less than 5 days a week. The newspaper advertisement 597 shall be in substantially the following form: 598 NOTICE OF (TYPE OF) CHANGE 599 600 The ... (name of local governmental unit) ... proposes to adopt the following ordinance:... (title of the ordinance).... 601 602 A public hearing on the ordinance will be held on ... (date 603 and time)... at ... (meeting place).... 604 605 Except for amendments which change the actual list of permitted, 606 conditional, or prohibited uses within a zoning category, the 607 advertisement shall contain a geographic location map which 608 clearly indicates the area covered by the proposed ordinance. 609 The map shall include major street names as a means of 610 identification of the general area. 611 In lieu of publishing the advertisement set out in this с. 612 paragraph, the municipality may mail a notice to each person 613 owning real property within the area covered by the ordinance. 614 Such notice shall clearly explain the proposed ordinance and shall notify the person of the time, place, and location of any 615 public hearing on the proposed ordinance. 616

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617 Section 15. Section 170.05, Florida Statutes, is amended 618 to read:

170.05 Publication of resolution.-Upon the adoption of the 619 620 resolution provided for in s. 170.03, the municipality shall 621 cause said resolution to be published on a publicly accessible 622 website maintained by the municipality or one time in a 623 newspaper of general circulation published in said municipality, and if there is be no website or newspaper published in said 624 625 municipality, the governing authority of said municipality shall 626 cause said resolution to be published once a week for a period of 2 weeks in a newspaper of general circulation published in 627 628 the county in which said municipality is located.

629 Section 16. Section 170.07, Florida Statutes, is amended 630 to read:

631 170.07 Publication of preliminary assessment roll.-Upon 632 the completion of said preliminary assessment roll, the 633 governing authority of the municipality shall by resolution fix 634 a time and place at which the owners of the property to be 635 assessed or any other persons interested therein may appear 636 before said governing authority and be heard as to the propriety 637 and advisability of making such improvements, as to the cost 638 thereof, as to the manner of payment therefor, and as to the 639 amount thereof to be assessed against each property so improved. 640 Thirty days' notice in writing of such time and place shall be 641 given to such property owners. The notice shall include the 642 amount of the assessment and shall be served by mailing a copy 643 to each of such property owners at his or her last known 644 address, the names and addresses of such property owners to be

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645 obtained from the records of the property appraiser or from such 646 other sources as the city or town clerk or engineer deems 647 reliable, proof of such mailing to be made by the affidavit of 648 the clerk or deputy clerk of said municipality, or by the 649 engineer, said proof to be filed with the clerk, provided, that 650 failure to mail said notice or notices shall not invalidate any 651 of the proceedings hereunder. Notice of the time and place of 652 such hearing shall also be given by two publications a week 653 apart in a newspaper of general circulation in said municipality 654 or by publication daily for 2 weeks on a publicly accessible 655 website maintained by the municipality, and if there is be no 656 website or newspaper published in said municipality, the 657 governing authority of said municipality shall cause said notice 658 to be published in like manner in a newspaper of general 659 circulation published in the county in which said municipality 660 is located; provided that the last publication shall be at least 661 1 week before prior to the date of the hearing. Said notice 662 shall describe the streets or other areas to be improved and 663 advise all persons interested that the description of each 664 property to be assessed and the amount to be assessed to each 665 piece or parcel of property may be ascertained at the office of 666 the clerk of the municipality. Such service by publication shall 667 be verified by the affidavit of the publisher and filed with the 668 clerk of said municipality.

669 Section 17. Subsection (1) of section 180.24, Florida670 Statutes, is amended to read:

671 180.24 Contracts for construction; bond; publication of672 notice; bids.-

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673 Any municipality desiring the accomplishment of any or (1)674 all of the purposes of this chapter may make contracts for the 675 construction of any of the utilities mentioned in this chapter, 676 or any extension or extensions to any previously constructed 677 utility, which said contracts shall be in writing, and the contractor shall be required to give bond, which said bond shall 678 679 be executed by a surety company authorized to do business in the 680 state; provided, however, construction contracts in excess of 681 \$25,000 shall be advertised by the publication of a notice in a 682 newspaper of general circulation in the county in which said 683 municipality is located at least once each week for 2 684 consecutive weeks, by publication daily for 2 weeks on a 685 publicly accessible website maintained by the municipality, or 686 by posting three notices in three conspicuous places in said 687 municipality, one of which shall be on the door of the city 688 hall; and that at least 10 days shall elapse between the date of 689 the first publication or posting of such notice and the date of 690 receiving bids and the execution of such contract documents. For 691 municipal construction projects identified in s. 255.0525, the 692 notice provision of that section supersedes and replaces the 693 notice provisions in this section.

694 Section 18. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 695 197.3632, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

696 197.3632 Uniform method for the levy, collection, and697 enforcement of non-ad valorem assessments.-

(3) (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
contrary, a local government which is authorized to impose a
non-ad valorem assessment and which elects to use the uniform

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701 method of collecting such assessment for the first time as 702 authorized in this section shall adopt a resolution at a public 703 hearing before prior to January 1 or, if the property appraiser, 704 tax collector, and local government agree, March 1. The 705 resolution shall clearly state its intent to use the uniform 706 method of collecting such assessment. The local government shall 707 publish notice of its intent to use the uniform method for 708 collecting such assessment weekly in a newspaper of general 709 circulation within each county contained in the boundaries of 710 the local government for 4 consecutive weeks preceding the 711 hearing or, in the case of a county or municipality, daily 712 during the 4 consecutive weeks immediately preceding the hearing 713 on a publicly accessible website maintained by the county or municipality. The resolution shall state the need for the levy 714 715 and shall include a legal description of the boundaries of the 716 real property subject to the levy. If the resolution is adopted, 717 the local governing board shall send a copy of it by United 718 States mail to the property appraiser, the tax collector, and 719 the department by January 10 or, if the property appraiser, tax 720 collector, and local government agree, March 10. 721 Section 19. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2), paragraph (g)

721 Section 19. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2), paragraph (g) 722 of subsection (3), paragraph (b) of subsection (12), and 723 paragraph (a) of subsection (14) of section 200.065, Florida 724 Statutes, are amended to read:

725

200.065 Method of fixing millage.-

(2) No millage shall be levied until a resolution or
ordinance has been approved by the governing board of the taxing
authority which resolution or ordinance must be approved by the

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729	taxing authority according to the following procedure:
730	(d) Within 15 days after the meeting adopting the
731	tentative budget, the taxing authority shall advertise in a
732	newspaper of general circulation in the county as provided in
733	subsection (3) $_{m au}$ its intent to finally adopt a millage rate and
734	budget or, in the case of a county or municipality, may
735	advertise on its publicly accessible website its intent to
736	finally adopt a millage rate and budget, and shall maintain the
737	notice on its website until completion of the hearing. If
738	advertised in a newspaper, a public hearing to finalize the
739	budget and adopt a millage rate shall be held not less than 2
740	days nor more than 5 days after the day that the advertisement
741	is first published. During the hearing, the governing body of
742	the taxing authority shall amend the adopted tentative budget as
743	it sees fit, adopt a final budget, and adopt a resolution or
744	ordinance stating the millage rate to be levied. The resolution
745	or ordinance shall state the percent, if any, by which the
746	millage rate to be levied exceeds the rolled-back rate computed
747	pursuant to subsection (1), which shall be characterized as the
748	percentage increase in property taxes adopted by the governing
749	body. The adoption of the budget and the millage-levy resolution
750	or ordinance shall be by separate votes. For each taxing
751	authority levying millage, the name of the taxing authority, the
752	rolled-back rate, the percentage increase, and the millage rate
753	to be levied shall be publicly announced <u>before</u> prior to the
754	adoption of the millage-levy resolution or ordinance. In no
755	event may The millage rate adopted pursuant to this paragraph
756	may not exceed the millage rate tentatively adopted pursuant to
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757 paragraph (c). If the rate tentatively adopted pursuant to 758 paragraph (c) exceeds the proposed rate provided to the property 759 appraiser pursuant to paragraph (b), or as subsequently adjusted 760 pursuant to subsection (11), each taxpayer within the 761 jurisdiction of the taxing authority shall be sent notice by 762 first-class mail of his or her taxes under the tentatively 763 adopted millage rate and his or her taxes under the previously 764 proposed rate. The notice must be prepared by the property 765 appraiser, at the expense of the taxing authority, and must generally conform to the requirements of s. 200.069. If such 766 additional notice is necessary, its mailing must precede the 767 768 hearing held pursuant to this paragraph by not less than 10 days 769 and not more than 15 days.

770 (3)The advertisement shall be no less than one-quarter 771 page in size of a standard size or a tabloid size newspaper, and 772 the headline in the advertisement shall be in a type no smaller 773 than 18 point. The advertisement shall not be placed in that 774 portion of the newspaper where legal notices and classified 775 advertisements appear. The advertisement shall be published in a 776 newspaper of general paid circulation in the county or in a 777 geographically limited insert of such newspaper. The geographic 778 boundaries in which such insert is circulated shall include the 779 geographic boundaries of the taxing authority. It is the 780 legislative intent that, whenever possible, the advertisement appear in a newspaper that is published at least 5 days a week 781 unless the only newspaper in the county is published less than 5 782 783 days a week, or that the advertisement appear in a 784 geographically limited insert of such newspaper which insert is

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785 published throughout the taxing authority's jurisdiction at 786 least twice each week. It is further the legislative intent that 787 the newspaper selected be one of general interest and readership 788 in the community and not one of limited subject matter, pursuant 789 to chapter 50.

790 If In the event that the mailing of the notice of (q) 791 proposed property taxes is delayed beyond September 3 in a 792 county, any multicounty taxing authority which levies ad valorem 793 taxes within that county shall advertise its intention to adopt 794 a tentative budget and millage rate on a publicly accessible 795 website maintained by the taxing authority or in a newspaper of 796 paid general circulation within that county, as provided in this 797 subsection, and shall hold the hearing required pursuant to 798 paragraph (2)(c). If advertised in the newspaper, the hearing 799 shall be held not less than 2 days or more than 5 days 800 thereafter, and not later than September 18. If advertised on 801 the website, the hearing shall be held not less than 2 days 802 after initial publication of the advertisement on the website 803 and not later than September 18, and shall remain on the website 804 until the date of the hearing. The advertisement shall be in the 805 following form, unless the proposed millage rate is less than or equal to the rolled-back rate, computed pursuant to subsection 806 807 (1), in which case the advertisement shall be as provided in 808 paragraph (e): 809 NOTICE OF TAX INCREASE

810

811 The ... (name of the taxing authority) ... proposes to increase its property tax levy by ... (percentage of increase 812 Page 29 of 36

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813 over rolled-back rate)... percent.

All concerned citizens are invited to attend a public hearing on the proposed tax increase to be held on ...(date and time)... at ...(meeting place)....

817 (12) The time periods specified in this section shall be 818 determined by using the date of certification of value pursuant 819 to subsection (1) or July 1, whichever date is later, as day 1. 820 The time periods shall be considered directory and may be 821 shortened, provided:

(b) Any public hearing preceded by a newspaper
advertisement is held not less than 2 days or more than 5 days
following publication of such advertisement <u>and any public</u>
<u>hearing preceded by advertisement on a website advertisement is</u>
<u>held not less than 2 days after initial publication</u>; and

827 (14) (a) If the notice of proposed property taxes mailed to 828 taxpayers under this section contains an error, the property 829 appraiser, in lieu of mailing a corrected notice to all 830 taxpayers, may correct the error by mailing a short form of the 831 notice to those taxpayers affected by the error and its 832 correction. The notice shall be prepared by the property 833 appraiser at the expense of the taxing authority which caused 834 the error or at the property appraiser's expense if he or she 835 caused the error. The form of the notice must be approved by the 836 executive director of the Department of Revenue or the executive director's designee. If the error involves only the date and 837 838 time of the public hearings required by this section, the 839 property appraiser, with the permission of the taxing authority 840 affected by the error, may correct the error by advertising the

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841 corrected information on a publicly accessible website 842 maintained by the taxing authority or in a newspaper of general 843 circulation in the county as provided in subsection (3). 844 Section 20. Subsection (2) of section 255.0525, Florida 845 Statutes, is amended to read: 846 255.0525 Advertising for competitive bids or proposals.-847 The solicitation of competitive bids or proposals for (2) any county, municipality, or other political subdivision 848 849 construction project that is projected to cost more than 850 \$200,000 shall be publicly advertised at least once in a 851 newspaper of general circulation in the county where the project 852 is located at least 21 days before prior to the established bid 853 opening and at least 5 days before prior to any scheduled prebid 854 conference, or advertised daily during the 21-day period 855 immediately preceding the established bid opening date and daily 856 during the 5-day period immediately preceding any scheduled 857 prebid conference on a publicly accessible website maintained by 858 the entity responsible for publication. The solicitation of 859 competitive bids or proposals for any county, municipality, or 860 other political subdivision construction project that is 861 projected to cost more than \$500,000 shall be publicly 862 advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation 863 in the county where the project is located at least 30 days 864 before prior to the established bid opening and at least 5 days 865 before prior to any scheduled prebid conference, or advertised daily during the 30-day period immediately preceding the 866 867 established bid opening date and daily during the 5-day period 868 immediately preceding any scheduled prebid conference on a

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869 <u>publicly accessible website</u>. Bids or proposals shall be received 870 and opened at the location, date, and time established in the 871 bid or proposal advertisement. In cases of emergency, the 872 procedures required in this section may be altered by the local 873 governmental entity in any manner that is reasonable under the 874 emergency circumstances.

875 Section 21. Paragraph (e) of subsection (25) of section 876 380.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

380.06 Developments of regional impact.-

877 878

(25) AREAWIDE DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT.-

879 The local government shall schedule a public hearing (e) 880 within 60 days after receipt of the petition. The public hearing 881 shall be advertised at least 30 days before prior to the 882 hearing. In addition to the public hearing notice by the local 883 government, the petitioner, except when the petitioner is a 884 local government, shall provide actual notice to each person 885 owning land within the proposed areawide development plan at 886 least 30 days before prior to the hearing. If the petitioner is 887 a local government, or local governments pursuant to an 888 interlocal agreement, notice of the public hearing shall be 889 provided by the publication of an advertisement on a publicly 890 accessible website maintained by the county or municipality 891 responsible for publication or in a newspaper of general 892 circulation that meets the requirements of this paragraph. The <u>newspaper</u> advertisement must be no less than one-quarter page in 893 894 a standard size or tabloid size newspaper, and the headline in 895 the newspaper advertisement must be in type no smaller than 18 896 point. The newspaper advertisement may shall not be published in

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897 that portion of the newspaper where legal notices and classified 898 advertisements appear. The advertisement must be published on a 899 publicly accessible website maintained by the county or 900 municipality responsible for publication or in a newspaper of 901 general paid circulation in the county and of general interest 902 and readership in the community, not one of limited subject 903 matter, pursuant to chapter 50. Whenever possible, the newspaper 904 advertisement must appear in a newspaper that is published at 905 least 5 days a week, unless the only newspaper in the community 906 is published less than 5 days a week. The advertisement must be 907 in substantially the form used to advertise amendments to 908 comprehensive plans pursuant to s. 163.3184. The local government shall specifically notify in writing the regional 909 910 planning agency and the state land planning agency at least 30 911 days before prior to the public hearing. At the public hearing, 912 all interested parties may testify and submit evidence regarding 913 the petitioner's qualifications, the need for and benefits of an 914 areawide development of regional impact, and such other issues 915 relevant to a full consideration of the petition. If more than 916 one local government has jurisdiction over the defined planning 917 area in an areawide development plan, the local governments 918 shall hold a joint public hearing. Such hearing shall address, 919 at a minimum, the need to resolve conflicting ordinances or 920 comprehensive plans, if any. The local government holding the joint hearing shall comply with the following additional 921 922 requirements:

923 1. The notice of the hearing shall be published at least924 60 days in advance of the hearing and shall specify where the

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925 petition may be reviewed.

926 2. The notice shall be given to the state land planning 927 agency, to the applicable regional planning agency, and to such 928 other persons as may have been designated by the state land 929 planning agency as entitled to receive such notices.

3. A public hearing date shall be set by the appropriatelocal government at the next scheduled meeting.

932 Section 22. Subsection (2) of section 403.7049, Florida933 Statutes, is amended to read:

934 403.7049 Determination of full cost for solid waste935 management; local solid waste management fees.-

936 (2) (a) Each municipality shall establish a system to 937 inform, no less than once a year, residential and nonresidential 938 users of solid waste management services within the municipality's service area of the user's share, on an average 939 940 or individual basis, of the full cost for solid waste management 941 as determined pursuant to subsection (1). Counties shall provide 942 the information required of municipalities only to residential 943 and nonresidential users of solid waste management services 944 within the county's service area that are not served by a 945 municipality. Municipalities shall include costs charged to them 946 or persons contracting with them for disposal of solid waste in 947 the full cost information provided to residential and 948 nonresidential users of solid waste management services. The public disclosure system requirements of this 949 (b)

950 section shall be fulfilled by meeting one of the following:

951 <u>1. By mailing a copy of the full cost information to each</u>
 952 residential and nonresidential user of solid waste management

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953	service within the solid waste management service area of the
954	county or municipality;
955	2. By enclosing a copy of the full cost information in or
956	with a bill sent to each residential and nonresidential user of
957	solid waste management services within the service area of the
958	county or municipality;
959	3. By publishing a copy of the full cost information in a
960	newspaper of general circulation within the county. Such notice
961	shall be a display advertisement not less than one-quarter page
962	<u>in size; or</u>
963	4. By advertising a copy of the full cost information
964	daily for at least two consecutive weeks on a publicly
965	accessible website maintained by the municipality.
966	(c) (b) Counties and municipalities are encouraged to
967	operate their solid waste management systems through use of an
968	enterprise fund.
969	Section 23. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
970	403.973, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
971	403.973 Expedited permitting; amendments to comprehensive
972	plans
973	(2) As used in this section, the term:
974	(a) "Duly noticed" means publication on a publicly
975	accessible website maintained by the municipality or county
976	having jurisdiction or in a newspaper of general circulation in
977	the municipality or county <u>having</u> with jurisdiction. <u>If</u>
978	published in a newspaper, the notice shall appear on at least 2
979	separate days, one of which shall be at least 7 days before the
980	meeting. If published on a publicly accessible website, the

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981 notice shall appear daily during the 7 days immediately 982 preceding the meeting. The notice shall state the date, time, 983 and place of the meeting scheduled to discuss or enact the 984 memorandum of agreement, and the places within the municipality 985 or county where such proposed memorandum of agreement may be 986 inspected by the public. The newspaper notice must be one-eighth 987 of a page in size and must be published in a portion of the 988 paper other than the legal notices section. The notice shall 989 also advise that interested parties may appear at the meeting 990 and be heard with respect to the memorandum of agreement. 991 Section 24. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 992 420.9075, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 993 420.9075 Local housing assistance plans; partnerships.-994 (4) Each local housing assistance plan is governed by the 995 following criteria and administrative procedures: 996 (b) The county or eligible municipality or its 997 administrative representative shall advertise the notice of 998 funding availability in a newspaper of general circulation and 999 periodicals serving ethnic and diverse neighborhoods, at least 1000 30 days before the beginning of the application period or daily 1001 during the 30 days immediately preceding the application period 1002 on a publicly accessible website maintained by the county or 1003 eligible municipality. If no funding is available due to a 1004 waiting list, no notice of funding availability is required. 1005 Section 25. This act shall take effect October 1, 2011.

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