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By the Committee on Judiciary; and Senator Rodrigues

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A bill to be entitled An act relating to legal notices; amending s. 50.011, F.S.; revising requirements for newspapers that are qualified to publish legal notices; authorizing the Internet publication of legal notices on certain websites in lieu of print publication in a newspaper; amending s. 50.021, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 50.0211, F.S.; defining the term "governmental agency"; requiring the Florida Press Association to consult with the Black Press Association of Florida for a specified purpose; authorizing a governmental agency to opt for Internetonly publication of legal notices with any newspaper of general circulation within the state if certain conditions are met; specifying requirements for the placement, format, and accessibility of any such legal notices; requiring the newspaper to display a specified disclaimer regarding the posting of legal notices; authorizing a newspaper to charge for Internet-only publication, subject to specified limitations; specifying applicable penalties for unauthorized rebates, commissions, or refunds in connection with publication charges; requiring a governmental agency that publishes certain legal notices by Internet-only publication to publish a specified notice in the print edition of a local newspaper; amending s. 50.031, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending ss. 50.041 and 50.051, F.S.; revising provisions governing

the uniform affidavit establishing proof of publication to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 83.806, F.S.; providing that an advertisement of a sale or disposition of property may be published on certain websites for a specified time period; amending ss. 11.02, 45.031, 120.81, 121.0511, 121.055, 125.66, 162.12, 166.041, 189.015, 190.005, 190.046, 194.037, 197.402, 200.065, 338.223, 348.0308, 348.635, 348.7605, 373.0397, 373.146, 403.722, 712.06, 849.38, 865.09, and 932.704, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 50.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

notices to be published.—Whenever by statute an official or legal advertisement or a publication, or notice in a newspaper has been or is directed or permitted in the nature of or in lieu of process, or for constructive service, or in initiating, assuming, reviewing, exercising or enforcing jurisdiction or power, or for any purpose, including all legal notices and advertisements of sheriffs and tax collectors, the contemporaneous and continuous intent and meaning of such legislation all and singular, existing or repealed, is and has been and is hereby declared to be and to have been, and the rule of interpretation is and has been the following:

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(1) A publication in a newspaper printed and published periodically at least once a week or oftener, containing at least 25 percent of its words in the English language, entered or qualified to be admitted and entered as periodicals matter at a post office in the county where published, for sale to the public generally, available to the public generally for the publication of official or other notices and customarily containing information of a public character or of interest or of value to the residents or owners of property in the county where published, or of interest or of value to the general public; or

(2) By Internet publication on the website of any newspaper of general circulation in this state that otherwise meets the criteria specified in subsection (1) and on the statewide legal notice website as provided under s. 50.0211(5).

Section 2. Section 50.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

50.021 Publication when no newspaper in county.—When any law, or order or decree of court, directs shall direct advertisements to be made in a any county and there is be no newspaper published in the said county, the advertisement may be made by posting on the website of any newspaper of general circulation in this state and on the statewide legal notice website as provided in s. 50.0211(5) or posting three copies thereof in three different places in the said county, one of which shall be at the front door of the courthouse, and by publication in the nearest county in which a newspaper is published.

Section 3. Section 50.0211, Florida Statutes, is amended to

read:

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50.0211 Internet website publication.-

- (1) As used in this section, the term "governmental agency" means a county, municipality, district school board, or other unit of local government or political subdivision in this state.
- (2) This section applies to legal notices that must be published in accordance with this chapter unless otherwise specified.
- (3) (3) (2) If a governmental agency publishes a legal notice in the print edition of a newspaper, each legal notice must be posted on the newspaper's website on the same day that the printed notice appears in the newspaper, at no additional charge, in a separate web page titled "Legal Notices," "Legal Advertising," or comparable identifying language. A link to the legal notices web page shall be provided on the front page of the newspaper's website that provides access to the legal notices. If there is a specified size and placement required for a printed legal notice, the size and placement of the notice on the newspaper's website must optimize its online visibility in keeping with the print requirements. The newspaper's web pages that contain legal notices must present the legal notices as the dominant and leading subject matter of those pages. The newspaper's website must contain a search function to facilitate searching the legal notices. A fee may not be charged, and registration may not be required, for viewing or searching legal notices on a newspaper's website if the legal notice is published in a newspaper.
- $\underline{(4)(a)(3)(a)}$ If a legal notice is published in the print edition of a newspaper or on a newspaper's website, the

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newspaper publishing the notice shall place the notice on the statewide website established and maintained as an initiative of the Florida Press Association as a repository for such notices located at the following address: www.floridapublicnotices.com.

- (b) A legal notice placed on the statewide website created under this subsection must be:
 - 1. Accessible and searchable by party name and case number.
- 2. Posted for a period of at least 90 consecutive days after the first day of posting.
- (c) The statewide website created under this subsection shall maintain a searchable archive of all legal notices posted on the publicly accessible website on or after October 1, 2014, for 18 months after the first day of posting. Such searchable archive shall be provided and accessible to the general public without charge.
- (d) In its operation of the statewide website, the Florida

 Press Association shall consult with the Black Press Association
 of Florida to ensure that minority populations throughout the
 state have equitable access to legal notices that are posted on
 the Internet.
- (5) (a) In lieu of publishing a legal notice in the print edition of a newspaper of general circulation within the jurisdiction of the affected governmental agency, a governmental agency may opt for Internet-only publication with any newspaper of general circulation within this state so long as the governmental agency determines that the Internet publication of such notice would not unreasonably restrict public access. Any such notice that is published only on the Internet in accordance with this subsection must be placed in the legal notices section

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of the newspaper's website and the statewide website established under subsection (4). All requirements regarding the format and accessibility of legal notices placed on the newspaper's website and the statewide website in subsections (3) and (4) also apply to legal notices that are published only on the Internet in accordance with this subsection.

- (b) The legal notices section of the print edition of a newspaper and a newspaper's website must include a disclaimer stating that the listing of legal notices may not include all legal notices affecting the area of distribution of the newspaper and that additional legal notices may be accessed on the statewide legal notice website.
- (c) A newspaper may charge for the publication of any legal notice that is published only on the newspaper's website, without rebate, commission, or refund; however, the newspaper may not charge any higher rate for publication than the amount that would be authorized under s. 50.061 if the legal notice had been printed in the newspaper. The penalties prescribed in s. 50.061(7) for allowing or accepting any rebate, commission, or refund in connection to the amounts charged for publication also apply to any legal notices that are published only on the Internet in accordance with this subsection.
- (d) If a governmental agency exercises the option to publish legal notices on the Internet in accordance with this subsection, such agency must provide notice at least once per week in the print edition of a newspaper of general circulation within the region in which the governmental agency is located which states that legal notices pertaining to the agency do not all appear in the print edition of the local newspaper and that

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<u>a full listing of any legal notices may be accessed on the statewide legal notice website located at www.floridapublicnotices.com.</u>

(6) (4) Newspapers that publish legal notices shall, upon request, provide e-mail notification of new legal notices when they are <u>published printed</u> in the newspaper <u>or on and added to</u> the newspaper's website. Such e-mail notification shall be provided without charge, and notification for such an e-mail registry shall be available on the front page of the legal notices section of the newspaper's website.

Section 4. Section 50.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

50.031 Newspapers in which legal notices and process may be published.-No notice or publication required to be published in the print edition of a newspaper or on a newspaper's website in the nature of or in lieu of process of any kind, nature, character or description provided for under any law of the state, whether heretofore or hereafter enacted, and whether pertaining to constructive service, or the initiating, assuming, reviewing, exercising or enforcing jurisdiction or power, by any court in this state, or any notice of sale of property, real or personal, for taxes, state, county or municipal, or sheriff's, quardian's or administrator's or any sale made pursuant to any judicial order, decree or statute or any other publication or notice pertaining to any affairs of the state, or any county, municipality or other political subdivision thereof, shall be deemed to have been published in accordance with the statutes providing for such publication, unless the same shall have been published for the prescribed period of time required for such

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publication, in a newspaper which at the time of such publication shall have been in existence for 1 year and shall have been entered as periodicals matter at a post office in the county where published, or in a newspaper which is a direct successor of a newspaper which has together have been so published; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall apply where in any county there shall be no newspaper in existence which shall have been published for the length of time above prescribed. No legal publication of any kind, nature or description, as herein defined, shall be valid or binding or held to be in compliance with the statutes providing for such publication unless the same shall have been published in accordance with the provisions of this section or s. 50.0211(5). Proof of such publication shall be made by uniform affidavit.

Section 5. Section 50.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 50.041 Proof of publication; uniform affidavits required.-
- (1) All affidavits of publishers of newspapers (or their official representatives) made for the purpose of establishing proof of publication of public notices or legal advertisements shall be uniform throughout the state.
- (2) Each such affidavit shall be printed upon white paper and shall be 8 1/2 inches in width and of convenient length, not less than 5 1/2 inches. A white margin of not less than 2 1/2 inches shall be left at the right side of each affidavit form and upon or in this space shall be substantially pasted a clipping which shall be a true copy of the public notice or legal advertisement for which proof is executed. Alternatively, the affidavit may be provided in electronic rather than paper

form, provided the notarization of the affidavit complies with the requirements of s. 117.021.

(3) In all counties having a population in excess of 450,000 according to the latest official decennial census, in addition to the charges which are now or may hereafter be established by law for the publication of every official notice or legal advertisement, There may be a charge not to exceed \$2 levied for the preparation and execution of each such proof of publication or publisher's affidavit.

Section 6. Section 50.051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

50.051 Proof of publication; form of uniform affidavit.—The printed form upon which all such affidavits establishing proof of publication are to be executed shall be substantially as follows:

NAME OF COUNTY NEWSPAPER

Published (Weekly or Daily)

(Town or City) (County) FLORIDA

251 STATE OF FLORIDA

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COUNTY OF:

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared, who on oath says that he or she is of the, a newspaper published at in County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertisement, being a in the matter of in the Court, was published in said newspaper by print in the issues of or by publication on the newspaper's website on ...(date)....

Affiant further says that the newspaper complies with all

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262 legal requirements for publication in chapter 50, Florida 263 Statutes said is a newspaper published at, in said 264 County, Florida, and that the said newspaper has heretofore 265 been continuously published in said County, Florida, each 266 ... and has been entered as periodicals matter at the post 267 office in, in said County, Florida, for a period of 1 268 year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy 269 of advertisement; and affiant further says that he or she has 270 neither paid nor promised any person, firm or corporation any 271 discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of 272 securing this advertisement for publication in the said 273 newspaper. 274 Sworn to and subscribed before me this day of, 275 276 ... (year) ..., by, who is personally known to me or who has 277 produced (type of identification) as identification. 278 279 ... (Signature of Notary Public) ... 280 281 ... (Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)... 282 283 ...(Notary Public)... 284 Section 7. Subsection (4) of section 83.806, Florida 285 Statutes, is amended to read: 286 83.806 Enforcement of lien.—An owner's lien as provided in 287 s. 83.805 may be satisfied as follows: 288 (4) After the expiration of the time given in the notice, 289 an advertisement of the sale or other disposition shall be 290 published once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of

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general circulation in the area where the self-service storage facility or self-contained storage unit is located <u>or published</u> continuously for 14 consecutive days on a public website that customarily conducts personal property auctions.

- (a) A lien sale may be conducted on a public website that customarily conducts personal property auctions. The facility or unit owner is not required to hold a license to post property for online sale. Inasmuch as any sale may involve property of more than one tenant, a single advertisement may be used to dispose of property at any one sale.
 - (b) The advertisement shall include:
- 1. A brief and general description of what is believed to constitute the personal property contained in the storage unit, as provided in paragraph (2)(b).
- 2. The address of the self-service storage facility or the address where the self-contained storage unit is located and the name of the tenant.
- 3. The time, place, and manner of the sale or other disposition. The sale or other disposition shall take place at least 15 days after the first publication.
- (c) If there is no newspaper of general circulation in the area where the self-service storage facility or self-contained storage unit is located, the advertisement shall be posted at least 10 days before the date of the sale or other disposition in at least three conspicuous places in the neighborhood where the self-service storage facility or self-contained storage unit is located or published continuously for 14 consecutive days on a public website that customarily conducts personal property auctions.

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Section 8. Section 11.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

11.02 Notice of special or local legislation or certain relief acts.—The notice required to obtain special or local legislation or any relief act specified in s. 11.065 shall be by publishing the identical notice in each county involved in some newspaper as provided defined in chapter 50 published in or circulated throughout the county or counties where the matter or thing to be affected by such legislation shall be situated one time at least 30 days before introduction of the proposed law into the Legislature or, if the notice is not made by Internet publication as provided in s. 50.0211(5) and there being no newspaper circulated throughout or published in the county, by posting for at least 30 days at not less than three public places in the county or each of the counties, one of which places shall be at the courthouse in the county or counties where the matter or thing to be affected by such legislation shall be situated. Notice of special or local legislation shall state the substance of the contemplated law, as required by s. 10, Art. III of the State Constitution. Notice of any relief act specified in s. 11.065 shall state the name of the claimant, the nature of the injury or loss for which the claim is made, and the amount of the claim against the affected municipality's revenue-sharing trust fund.

Section 9. Subsection (2) of section 45.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

45.031 Judicial sales procedure.—In any sale of real or personal property under an order or judgment, the procedures provided in this section and ss. 45.0315-45.035 may be followed

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as an alternative to any other sale procedure if so ordered by the court.

- (2) PUBLICATION OF SALE.—Notice of sale shall be published by Internet publication in accordance with s. 50.0211(5) for at least 2 consecutive weeks before the sale or, if published in print, once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation, as provided defined in chapter 50, published in the county where the sale is to be held. The second publication by print shall be at least 5 days before the sale. The notice shall contain:
 - (a) A description of the property to be sold.
 - (b) The time and place of sale.
- (c) A statement that the sale will be made pursuant to the order or final judgment.
 - (d) The caption of the action.
 - (e) The name of the clerk making the sale.
- (f) A statement that any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.

The court, in its discretion, may enlarge the time of the sale. Notice of the changed time of sale shall be published as provided herein.

Section 10. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 120.81, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

120.81 Exceptions and special requirements; general areas.-

- (1) EDUCATIONAL UNITS.-
- (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter,

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educational units shall not be required to include the full text of the rule or rule amendment in notices relating to rules and need not publish these or other notices in the Florida Administrative Register, but notice shall be made:

- 1. By publication in the print edition of a newspaper of general circulation in the affected area or by Internet publication in accordance with s. 50.0211(5);
- 2. By mail to all persons who have made requests of the educational unit for advance notice of its proceedings and to organizations representing persons affected by the proposed rule; and
- 3. By posting in appropriate places so that those particular classes of persons to whom the intended action is directed may be duly notified.

Section 11. Subsection (2) of section 121.0511, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 121.0511 Revocation of election and alternative plan.—The governing body of any municipality or independent special district that has elected to participate in the Florida Retirement System may revoke its election in accordance with the following procedure:
- (2) At least 7 days, but not more than 15 days, before the hearing, notice of intent to revoke, specifying the time and place of the hearing, must be published as provided in chapter 50 in a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected, as provided by ss. 50.011-50.031. Proof of publication of the notice must be submitted to the Department of Management Services.
 - Section 12. Paragraphs (b) and (h) of subsection (1) of

section 121.055, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

121.055 Senior Management Service Class.—There is hereby established a separate class of membership within the Florida Retirement System to be known as the "Senior Management Service Class," which shall become effective February 1, 1987.

(1)

- (b)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., effective January 1, 1990, participation in the Senior Management Service Class is compulsory for the president of each community college, the manager of each participating municipality or county, and all appointed district school superintendents. Effective January 1, 1994, additional positions may be designated for inclusion in the Senior Management Service Class if:
- a. Positions to be included in the class are designated by the local agency employer. Notice of intent to designate positions for inclusion in the class must be published <u>for at least 2 consecutive weeks if published by Internet publication as provided in s. 50.0211(5) or, if published in print, once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county or counties affected, as provided in chapter 50.</u>
- b. Up to 10 nonelective full-time positions may be designated for each local agency employer reporting to the department; for local agencies with 100 or more regularly established positions, additional nonelective full-time positions may be designated, not to exceed 1 percent of the regularly established positions within the agency.
- c. Each position added to the class must be a managerial or policymaking position filled by an employee who is not subject

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to continuing contract and serves at the pleasure of the local agency employer without civil service protection, and who:

- (I) Heads an organizational unit; or
- (II) Has responsibility to effect or recommend personnel, budget, expenditure, or policy decisions in his or her areas of responsibility.
- 2. In lieu of participation in the Senior Management Service Class, members of the Senior Management Service Class, pursuant to subparagraph 1., may withdraw from the Florida Retirement System altogether. The decision to withdraw from the system is irrevocable as long as the employee holds the position. Any service creditable under the Senior Management Service Class shall be retained after the member withdraws from the system; however, additional service credit in the Senior Management Service Class may not be earned after such withdrawal. Such members are not eligible to participate in the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program.
- 3. Effective January 1, 2006, through June 30, 2006, an employee who has withdrawn from the Florida Retirement System under subparagraph 2. has one opportunity to elect to participate in the pension plan or the investment plan.
- a. If the employee elects to participate in the investment plan, membership shall be prospective, and the applicable provisions of s. 121.4501(4) govern the election.
- b. If the employee elects to participate in the pension plan, the employee shall, upon payment to the system trust fund of the amount calculated under sub-sub-subparagraph (I), receive service credit for prior service based upon the time during which the employee had withdrawn from the system.

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(I) The cost for such credit shall be an amount representing the actuarial accrued liability for the affected period of service. The cost shall be calculated using the discount rate and other relevant actuarial assumptions that were used to value the pension plan liabilities in the most recent actuarial valuation. The calculation must include any service already maintained under the pension plan in addition to the period of withdrawal. The actuarial accrued liability attributable to any service already maintained under the pension plan shall be applied as a credit to the total cost resulting from the calculation. The division must ensure that the transfer sum is prepared using a formula and methodology certified by an actuary.

- (II) The employee must transfer a sum representing the net cost owed for the actuarial accrued liability in sub-sub-subparagraph (I) immediately following the time of such movement, determined assuming that attained service equals the sum of service in the pension plan and the period of withdrawal.
- (h)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 3., effective January 1, 1994, participation in the Senior Management Service Class shall be compulsory for the State Courts Administrator and the Deputy State Courts Administrators, the Clerk of the Supreme Court, the Marshal of the Supreme Court, the Executive Director of the Justice Administrative Commission, the capital collateral regional counsel, the clerks of the district courts of appeals, the marshals of the district courts of appeals, and the trial court administrator and the Chief Deputy Court Administrator in each judicial circuit. Effective January 1, 1994, additional positions in the offices of the state attorney and public

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defender in each judicial circuit may be designated for inclusion in the Senior Management Service Class of the Florida Retirement System, provided that:

- a. Positions to be included in the class shall be designated by the state attorney or public defender, as appropriate. Notice of intent to designate positions for inclusion in the class shall be published for at least 2 consecutive weeks by Internet publication as provided in s. 50.0211(5) or, if published in print, once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county or counties affected, as provided in chapter 50.
- b. One nonelective full-time position may be designated for each state attorney and public defender reporting to the Department of Management Services; for agencies with 200 or more regularly established positions under the state attorney or public defender, additional nonelective full-time positions may be designated, not to exceed 0.5 percent of the regularly established positions within the agency.
- c. Each position added to the class must be a managerial or policymaking position filled by an employee who serves at the pleasure of the state attorney or public defender without civil service protection, and who:
 - (I) Heads an organizational unit; or
- (II) Has responsibility to effect or recommend personnel, budget, expenditure, or policy decisions in his or her areas of responsibility.
- 2. Participation in this class shall be compulsory, except as provided in subparagraph 3., for any judicial employee who

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holds a position designated for coverage in the Senior Management Service Class, and such participation shall continue until the employee terminates employment in a covered position. Effective January 1, 2001, participation in this class is compulsory for assistant state attorneys, assistant statewide prosecutors, assistant public defenders, and assistant capital collateral regional counsel. Effective January 1, 2002, participation in this class is compulsory for assistant attorneys general.

3. In lieu of participation in the Senior Management Service Class, such members, excluding assistant state attorneys, assistant public defenders, assistant statewide prosecutors, assistant attorneys general, and assistant capital collateral regional counsel, may participate in the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program as established in subsection (6).

Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) and paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 125.66, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

125.66 Ordinances; enactment procedure; emergency ordinances; rezoning or change of land use ordinances or resolutions.—

(2) (a) The regular enactment procedure shall be as follows: The board of county commissioners at any regular or special meeting may enact or amend any ordinance, except as provided in subsection (4), if notice of intent to consider such ordinance is given at least 10 days before such prior to said meeting by publication as provided in chapter 50 in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. A copy of such notice shall be kept

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available for public inspection during the regular business hours of the office of the clerk of the board of county commissioners. The notice of proposed enactment shall state the date, time, and place of the meeting; the title or titles of proposed ordinances; and the place or places within the county where such proposed ordinances may be inspected by the public. The notice shall also advise that interested parties may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed 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 list of permitted, conditional, or prohibited uses within a zoning category, or ordinances or resolutions initiated by the county that change the actual zoning map designation of a parcel or parcels of land shall be enacted pursuant to the following 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:
- 1. The board of county commissioners shall hold two advertised public hearings on the proposed ordinance or resolution. At least one hearing shall be held after 5 p.m. on a weekday, unless the board of county commissioners, by a majority plus one vote, elects to conduct that hearing at another time of

day. The first public hearing shall be held at least 7 days after the day that the first advertisement is published. The second hearing shall be held at least 10 days after the first hearing and shall be advertised at least 5 days prior to the public hearing.

2. If published in the print edition of a newspaper, the required 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 advertisement shall not be placed in that portion of the newspaper where legal notices and classified advertisements appear. The advertisement shall be placed in a newspaper of general paid circulation in the county and of general interest and readership in the community pursuant to chapter 50, not one of limited subject matter. It is the legislative intent that, whenever possible, the advertisement shall appear in a newspaper that is published at least weekly 5 days a week unless the only newspaper in the community is published less than weekly 5 days a week. The advertisement shall be in substantially the following form:

NOTICE OF (TYPE OF) CHANGE

The ...(name of local governmental unit)... proposes to adopt the following by ordinance or resolution:...(title of ordinance or resolution)....

A public hearing on the ordinance or resolution will be held on ...(date and time)... at ...(meeting place)....

Except for amendments which change the actual list of permitted,

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conditional, or prohibited uses within a zoning category, the advertisement shall contain a geographic location map which clearly indicates the area within the local government covered by the proposed ordinance or resolution. The map shall include major street names as a means of identification of the general area. If In addition to being published in the print edition of the newspaper, the map must be part of any the online notice made required pursuant to s. 50.0211.

3. In lieu of publishing the advertisements set out in this paragraph, the board of county commissioners may mail a notice to each person owning real property within the area covered by the ordinance or resolution. Such notice shall clearly explain the proposed ordinance or resolution and shall notify the person of the time, place, and location of both public hearings on the proposed ordinance or resolution.

Section 14. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 162.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

162.12 Notices.-

- (2) In addition to providing notice as set forth in subsection (1), at the option of the code enforcement board or the local government, notice may be served by publication or posting, as follows:
- weeks on a newspaper's website and the statewide legal notice website as provided in s. 50.0211(5) or, if published in print, once during each week for 4 consecutive weeks (four publications being sufficient) in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the code enforcement board is located. The newspaper shall meet such requirements as are prescribed under

chapter 50 for legal and official advertisements.

2. Proof of publication shall be made as provided in ss. 50.041 and 50.051.

Section 15. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 166.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

166.041 Procedures for adoption of ordinances and resolutions.—

(3)

- (c) Ordinances initiated by other than the municipality that change the actual zoning map designation of a parcel or parcels of land shall be enacted pursuant to paragraph (a). Ordinances that change the actual list of permitted, conditional, or prohibited uses within a zoning category, or ordinances initiated by the municipality that change the actual zoning map designation of a parcel or parcels of land shall be enacted pursuant to the following procedure:
- 1. In cases in which the proposed ordinance changes the actual zoning map designation for a parcel or parcels of land involving less than 10 contiguous acres, the governing body shall direct the clerk of the governing body to notify by mail each real property owner whose land the municipality will redesignate by enactment of the ordinance and whose address is known by reference to the latest ad valorem tax records. The notice shall state the substance of the proposed ordinance as it affects that property owner and shall set a time and place for one or more public hearings on such ordinance. Such notice shall 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

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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:
- a. The local governing body shall hold two advertised public hearings on the proposed ordinance. At least one hearing shall be held after 5 p.m. on a weekday, unless the local governing body, by a majority plus one vote, elects to conduct that hearing at another time of day. The first public hearing shall be held at least 7 days after the day that the first advertisement is published. The second hearing shall be held at least 10 days after the first hearing and shall be advertised at least 5 days prior to the public hearing.
- b. If published in the print edition of a newspaper, the required 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 advertisement shall not be placed in that portion of the newspaper where legal notices and classified advertisements appear. The advertisement shall be placed in a newspaper of general paid circulation in the municipality and of general interest and readership in the municipality, not one of limited subject matter, pursuant to chapter 50. It is the

legislative intent that, whenever possible, the advertisement appear in a newspaper that is published at least weekly 5 days a week unless the only newspaper in the municipality is published less than weekly 5 days a week. The advertisement shall be in substantially the following form:

NOTICE OF (TYPE OF) CHANGE

The ... (name of local governmental unit)... proposes to adopt the following ordinance:... (title of the ordinance)....

A public hearing on the ordinance will be held on ... (date and time) ... at ... (meeting place)

s. 50.0211.

Except for amendments which change the actual list of permitted, conditional, or prohibited uses within a zoning category, the advertisement shall contain a geographic location map which clearly indicates the area covered by the proposed ordinance. The map shall include major street names as a means of identification of the general area. If In addition to being published in the print edition of the newspaper, the map must also be part of any the online notice made required pursuant to

c. In lieu of publishing the advertisement set out in this paragraph, the municipality may mail a notice to each person owning real property within the area covered by the ordinance. Such notice shall clearly explain the proposed ordinance and shall notify the person of the time, place, and location of any public hearing on the proposed ordinance.

Section 16. Subsection (1) of section 189.015, Florida

Statutes, is amended to read:

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189.015 Meetings; notice; required reports.-

(1) The governing body of each special district shall file quarterly, semiannually, or annually a schedule of its regular meetings with the local governing authority or authorities. The schedule shall include the date, time, and location of each scheduled meeting. The schedule shall be published quarterly, semiannually, or annually in a newspaper of general paid circulation in the manner required in this subsection. The governing body of an independent special district shall advertise the day, time, place, and purpose of any meeting other than a regular meeting or any recessed and reconvened meeting of the governing body, at least 7 days before such meeting as provided in chapter 50, in a newspaper of general paid circulation in the county or counties in which the special district is located, unless a bona fide emergency situation exists, in which case a meeting to deal with the emergency may be held as necessary, with reasonable notice, so long as it is subsequently ratified by the governing body. No approval of the annual budget shall be granted at an emergency meeting. The notice shall be posted as provided in advertisement shall be placed in that portion of the newspaper where legal notices and classified advertisements appear. The advertisement shall appear in a newspaper that is published at least 5 days a week, unless the only newspaper in the county is published fewer than 5 days a week. The newspaper selected must be one of general interest and readership in the community and not one of limited subject matter, pursuant to chapter 50. Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, and except in the case of

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emergency meetings, water management districts may provide reasonable notice of public meetings held to evaluate responses to solicitations issued by the water management district, by publication as provided in chapter 50 by Internet publication or by publication in a newspaper of general paid circulation in the county where the principal office of the water management district is located, or in the county or counties where the public work will be performed, no less than 7 days before such meeting.

Section 17. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 190.005, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

190.005 Establishment of district.

- (1) The exclusive and uniform method for the establishment of a community development district with a size of 2,500 acres or more shall be pursuant to a rule, adopted under chapter 120 by the Florida Land and Water Adjudicatory Commission, granting a petition for the establishment of a community development district.
- (d) A local public hearing on the petition shall be conducted by a hearing officer in conformance with the applicable requirements and procedures of the Administrative Procedure Act. The hearing shall include oral and written comments on the petition pertinent to the factors specified in paragraph (e). The hearing shall be held at an accessible location in the county in which the community development district is to be located. The petitioner shall cause a notice of the hearing to be published for 4 successive weeks on a newspaper's website and the statewide legal notice website provided in s. 50.0211(5) or, if published in print, in a

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newspaper at least once a week for the 4 successive weeks immediately prior to the hearing as provided in chapter 50. Such notice shall give the time and place for the hearing, a description of the area to be included in the district, which description shall include a map showing clearly the area to be covered by the district, and any other relevant information which the establishing governing bodies may require. If published in the print edition of a newspaper, the advertisement may shall not be placed in the that portion of the newspaper where legal notices and classified advertisements appear. The advertisement must shall be published in a newspaper of general paid circulation in the county and of general interest and readership in the community, not one of limited subject matter, pursuant to chapter 50. Whenever possible, the advertisement shall appear in a newspaper that is published at least weekly 5 days a week, unless the only newspaper in the community is published less than weekly fewer than 5 days a week. If the notice is In addition to being published in the print edition of the newspaper, the map referenced above must also be included in any part of the online advertisement required pursuant to s. 50.0211. All affected units of general-purpose local government and the general public shall be given an opportunity to appear at the hearing and present oral or written comments on the petition.

Section 18. Paragraph (h) of subsection (1) of section 190.046, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

190.046 Termination, contraction, or expansion of district.—

(1) A landowner or the board may petition to contract or

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expand the boundaries of a community development district in the following manner:

- (h) For a petition to establish a new community development district of less than 2,500 acres on land located solely in one county or one municipality, sufficiently contiguous lands located within the county or municipality which the petitioner anticipates adding to the boundaries of the district within 10 years after the effective date of the ordinance establishing the district may also be identified. If such sufficiently contiguous land is identified, the petition must include a legal description of each additional parcel within the sufficiently contiguous land, the current owner of the parcel, the acreage of the parcel, and the current land use designation of the parcel. At least 14 days before the hearing required under s. 190.005(2)(b), the petitioner must give the current owner of each such parcel notice of filing the petition to establish the district, the date and time of the public hearing on the petition, and the name and address of the petitioner. A parcel may not be included in the district without the written consent of the owner of the parcel.
- 1. After establishment of the district, a person may petition the county or municipality to amend the boundaries of the district to include a previously identified parcel that was a proposed addition to the district before its establishment. A filing fee may not be charged for this petition. Each such petition must include:
- a. A legal description by metes and bounds of the parcel to be added;
 - b. A new legal description by metes and bounds of the

district;

- c. Written consent of all owners of the parcel to be added;
- d. A map of the district including the parcel to be added;
- e. A description of the development proposed on the additional parcel; and
- f. A copy of the original petition identifying the parcel to be added.
- 2. Before filing with the county or municipality, the person must provide the petition to the district and to the owner of the proposed additional parcel, if the owner is not the petitioner.
- 3. Once the petition is determined sufficient and complete, the county or municipality must process the addition of the parcel to the district as an amendment to the ordinance that establishes the district. The county or municipality may process all petitions to amend the ordinance for parcels identified in the original petition, even if, by adding such parcels, the district exceeds 2,500 acres.
- 4. The petitioner shall cause to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the proposed district a notice of the intent to amend the ordinance that establishes the district. The notice must be in addition to any notice required for adoption of the ordinance amendment. Such notice must be published as provided in chapter 50 at least 10 days before the scheduled hearing on the ordinance amendment and may be published in the section of the newspaper reserved for legal notices. The notice must include a general description of the land to be added to the district and the date and time of the scheduled hearing to amend the ordinance. The petitioner shall

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deliver, including by mail or hand delivery, the notice of the hearing on the ordinance amendment to the owner of the parcel and to the district at least 14 days before the scheduled hearing.

- 5. The amendment of a district by the addition of a parcel pursuant to this paragraph does not alter the transition from landowner voting to qualified elector voting pursuant to s. 190.006, even if the total size of the district after the addition of the parcel exceeds 5,000 acres. Upon adoption of the ordinance expanding the district, the petitioner must cause to be recorded a notice of boundary amendment which reflects the new boundaries of the district.
- 6. This paragraph is intended to facilitate the orderly addition of lands to a district under certain circumstances and does not preclude the addition of lands to any district using the procedures in the other provisions of this section.

Section 19. Subsection (1) of section 194.037, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

194.037 Disclosure of tax impact.

(1) After hearing all petitions, complaints, appeals, and disputes, the clerk shall make public notice of the findings and results of the board as provided in chapter 50. If published in the print edition of a newspaper, the notice must be in at least a quarter-page size advertisement of a standard size or tabloid size newspaper, and the headline shall be in a type no smaller than 18 point. The advertisement shall not be placed in that portion of the newspaper where legal notices and classified advertisements appear. The advertisement shall be published in a newspaper of general paid circulation in the county. The

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newspaper selected shall be one of general interest and readership in the community, and not one of limited subject matter, pursuant to chapter 50. For all advertisements published pursuant to this section, the headline shall read: TAX IMPACT OF VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD. The public notice shall list the members of the value adjustment board and the taxing authorities to which they are elected. The form shall show, in columnar form, for each of the property classes listed under subsection (2), the following information, with appropriate column totals:

- (a) In the first column, the number of parcels for which the board granted exemptions that had been denied or that had not been acted upon by the property appraiser.
- (b) In the second column, the number of parcels for which petitions were filed concerning a property tax exemption.
- (c) In the third column, the number of parcels for which the board considered the petition and reduced the assessment from that made by the property appraiser on the initial assessment roll.
- (d) In the fourth column, the number of parcels for which petitions were filed but not considered by the board because such petitions were withdrawn or settled prior to the board's consideration.
- (e) In the fifth column, the number of parcels for which petitions were filed requesting a change in assessed value, including requested changes in assessment classification.
- (f) In the sixth column, the net change in taxable value from the assessor's initial roll which results from board decisions.
 - (g) In the seventh column, the net shift in taxes to

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parcels not granted relief by the board. The shift shall be computed as the amount shown in column 6 multiplied by the applicable millage rates adopted by the taxing authorities in hearings held pursuant to s. 200.065(2)(d) or adopted by vote of the electors pursuant to s. 9(b) or s. 12, Art. VII of the State Constitution, but without adjustment as authorized pursuant to s. 200.065(6). If for any taxing authority the hearing has not been completed at the time the notice required herein is prepared, the millage rate used shall be that adopted in the hearing held pursuant to s. 200.065(2)(c).

Section 20. Subsection (1) of section 197.402, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

197.402 Advertisement of real or personal property with delinquent taxes.—

(1) If advertisements are required, the board of county commissioners shall <u>make such notice</u> select the newspaper as provided in chapter 50. The tax collector shall pay all newspaper charges, and the proportionate cost of the advertisements shall be added to the delinquent taxes collected.

Section 21. Subsection (3) of section 200.065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

200.065 Method of fixing millage.-

(3) The advertisement shall be <u>published as provided in chapter 50. If the advertisement is published in the print edition of a newspaper, the advertisement must be no less than one-quarter page in size of 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 advertisement shall not be placed in that portion of the newspaper where legal notices and</u>

590-03199-21 2021402c1 958 classified advertisements appear. The advertisement shall be 959 published in a newspaper of general paid circulation in the 960 county or in a geographically limited insert of such newspaper. 961 The geographic boundaries in which such insert is circulated 962 shall include the geographic boundaries of the taxing authority. 963 It is the legislative intent that, whenever possible, the 964 advertisement appear in a newspaper that is published at least 965 weekly 5 days a week unless the only newspaper in the county is 966 published less than weekly 5 days a week, or that the 967 advertisement appear in a geographically limited insert of such 968 newspaper which insert is published throughout the taxing 969 authority's jurisdiction at least twice each week. It is further 970 the legislative intent that the newspaper selected be one of 971 general interest and readership in the community and not one of 972 limited subject matter, pursuant to chapter 50. 973 (a) For taxing authorities other than school districts 974 which have tentatively adopted a millage rate in excess of 100 975 percent of the rolled-back rate computed pursuant to subsection 976 (1), the advertisement shall be in the following form: 977 NOTICE OF PROPOSED TAX INCREASE 978 979 The ... (name of the taxing authority) ... has tentatively 980 adopted a measure to increase its property tax levy. 981 Last year's property tax levy: 982 A. Initially proposed tax levy.....\$XX,XXX,XXX 983 B. Less tax reductions due to Value Adjustment Board and 984 other assessment changes.....(\$XX,XXX) 985 C. Actual property tax levy.....\$XX,XXX This year's proposed tax levy.....\$XX,XXX,XXX 986

590-03199-21 2021402c1 987 All concerned citizens are invited to attend a public 988 hearing on the tax increase to be held on ... (date and time) ... 989 at ... (meeting place) 990 991 A FINAL DECISION on the proposed tax increase and the 992 budget will be made at this hearing. 993 (b) In all instances in which the provisions of paragraph 994 (a) are inapplicable for taxing authorities other than school 995 districts, the advertisement shall be in the following form: 996 997 NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING 998 999 The ... (name of taxing authority) ... has tentatively 1000 adopted a budget for ... (fiscal year).... A public hearing to 1001 make a FINAL DECISION on the budget AND TAXES will be held on 1002 ... (date and time) ... at ... (meeting place) 1003 1004 (c) For school districts which have proposed a millage rate 1005 in excess of 100 percent of the rolled-back rate computed 1006 pursuant to subsection (1) and which propose to levy nonvoted 1007 millage in excess of the minimum amount required pursuant to s. 1008 1011.60(6), the advertisement shall be in the following form: 1009 NOTICE OF PROPOSED TAX INCREASE 1010 The ... (name of school district) ... will soon consider a 1011 1012 measure to increase its property tax levy. 1013 Last year's property tax levy: 1014 A. Initially proposed tax levy.....\$XX,XXX,XXX 1015 B. Less tax reductions due to Value Adjustment Board and

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1016 other assessment changes.....(\$XX,XXX,XXX)

C. Actual property tax levy......\$XX,XXX,XXX
This year's proposed tax levy.....\$XX,XXX,XXX

A portion of the tax levy is required under state law in order for the school board to receive \$...(amount A)... in state education grants. The required portion has ...(increased or decreased)... by ...(amount B)... percent and represents approximately ...(amount C)... of the total proposed taxes.

The remainder of the taxes is proposed solely at the discretion of the school board.

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

A DECISION on the proposed tax increase and the budget will be made at this hearing.

- 1. AMOUNT A shall be an estimate, provided by the Department of Education, of the amount to be received in the current fiscal year by the district from state appropriations for the Florida Education Finance Program.
- 2. AMOUNT B shall be the percent increase over the rolled-back rate necessary to levy only the required local effort in the current fiscal year, computed as though in the preceding fiscal year only the required local effort was levied.
- 3. AMOUNT C shall be the quotient of required local-effort millage divided by the total proposed nonvoted millage, rounded to the nearest tenth and stated in words; however, the stated amount shall not exceed nine-tenths.
- (d) For school districts which have proposed a millage rate in excess of 100 percent of the rolled-back rate computed

pursuant to subsection (1) and which propose to levy as nonvoted millage only the minimum amount required pursuant to s. 1011.60(6), the advertisement shall be the same as provided in paragraph (c), except that the second and third paragraphs shall be replaced with the following paragraph:

This increase is required under state law in order for the school board to receive \$...(amount A)... in state education grants.

(e) In all instances in which the provisions of paragraphs(c) and (d) are inapplicable for school districts, theadvertisement shall be in the following form:

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The ...(name of school district)... will soon consider a budget for ...(fiscal year).... A public hearing to make a DECISION on the budget AND TAXES will be held on ...(date and time)... at ...(meeting place)....

- (f) In lieu of publishing the notice set out in this subsection, the taxing authority may mail a copy of the notice to each elector residing within the jurisdiction of the taxing authority.
- (g) In the event that the mailing of the notice of proposed property taxes is delayed beyond September 3 in a county, any multicounty taxing authority which levies ad valorem taxes within that county shall advertise its intention to adopt a

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tentative budget and millage rate in a newspaper of paid general circulation within that county, as provided in this subsection, and shall hold the hearing required pursuant to paragraph (2)(c) not less than 2 days or more than 5 days thereafter, and not later than September 18. The advertisement shall be in the following form, unless the proposed millage rate is less than or equal to the rolled-back rate, computed pursuant to subsection (1), in which case the advertisement shall be as provided in paragraph (e):

NOTICE OF TAX INCREASE

The ...(name of the taxing authority)... proposes to increase its property tax levy by ...(percentage of increase

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)....

(h) In no event shall any taxing authority add to or delete from the language of the advertisements as specified herein unless expressly authorized by law, except that, if an increase in ad valorem tax rates will affect only a portion of the jurisdiction of a taxing authority, advertisements may include a map or geographical description of the area to be affected and the proposed use of the tax revenues under consideration. In addition, if published in the print edition of the newspaper or only published on the Internet in accordance with s. 50.0211(5), the map must be included in part of the online advertisement required by s. 50.0211. The advertisements required herein shall

not be accompanied, preceded, or followed by other advertising or notices which conflict with or modify the substantive content prescribed herein.

- (i) The advertisements required pursuant to paragraphs (b) and (e) need not be one-quarter page in size or have a headline in type no smaller than 18 point.
- (j) The amounts to be published as percentages of increase over the rolled-back rate pursuant to this subsection shall be based on aggregate millage rates and shall exclude voted millage levies unless expressly provided otherwise in this subsection.
- (k) Any taxing authority which will levy an ad valorem tax for an upcoming budget year but does not levy an ad valorem tax currently shall, in the advertisement specified in paragraph (a), paragraph (c), paragraph (d), or paragraph (g), replace the phrase "increase its property tax levy by ... (percentage of increase over rolled-back rate)... percent" with the phrase "impose a new property tax levy of \$... (amount)... per \$1,000 value."
- (1) Any advertisement required pursuant to this section shall be accompanied by an adjacent notice meeting the budget summary requirements of s. 129.03(3)(b). Except for those taxing authorities proposing to levy ad valorem taxes for the first time, the following statement shall appear in the budget summary in boldfaced type immediately following the heading, if the applicable percentage is greater than zero:

THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES OF ... (name of taxing authority)... ARE ... (percent rounded to one decimal place)... MORE THAN LAST YEAR'S TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES.

- For purposes of this paragraph, "proposed operating budget expenditures" or "operating expenditures" means all moneys of the local government, including dependent special districts, that:
- 1. Were or could be expended during the applicable fiscal year, or
 - 2. Were or could be retained as a balance for future spending in the fiscal year.

- Provided, however, those moneys held in or used in trust, agency, or internal service funds, and expenditures of bond proceeds for capital outlay or for advanced refunded debt principal, shall be excluded.
- Section 22. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 338.223, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 338.223 Proposed turnpike projects.-

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(c) Prior to requesting legislative approval of a proposed turnpike project, the environmental feasibility of the proposed project shall be reviewed by the Department of Environmental Protection. The department shall submit its Project Development and Environmental Report to the Department of Environmental Protection, along with a draft copy of a public notice. Within 14 days of receipt of the draft public notice, the Department of Environmental Protection shall return the draft public notice to the Department of Transportation with an approval of the language or modifications to the language. Upon receipt of the approved or modified draft, or if no comments are provided

within 14 days, the Department of Transportation shall publish the notice <u>as provided in chapter 50</u> in a newspaper to provide a 30-day public comment period. <u>If published in the print edition of a newspaper</u>, the headline of the required notice shall be in a type no smaller than 18 point, The notice shall be placed in that portion of the newspaper where legal notices appear, and The notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or counties of general interest and readership in the community as provided in s. 50.031, not one of limited subject matter. Whenever possible, the notice shall appear in a newspaper that is published at least weekly 5 days a week. All notices published pursuant to this section The notice shall include, at a minimum but is not limited to, the following information:

- 1. The purpose of the notice is to provide for a 30-day period for written public comments on the environmental impacts of a proposed turnpike project.
- 2. The name and description of the project, along with a geographic location map clearly indicating the area where the proposed project will be located.
- 3. The address where such comments must be sent and the date such comments are due.

After a review of the department's report and any public comments, the Department of Environmental Protection shall submit a statement of environmental feasibility to the department within 30 days after the date on which public comments are due. The notice and the statement of environmental feasibility shall not give rise to any rights to a hearing or

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other rights or remedies provided pursuant to chapter 120 or chapter 403, and shall not bind the Department of Environmental Protection in any subsequent environmental permit review.

Section 23. Subsection (3) of section 348.0308, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

348.0308 Public-private partnership.—The Legislature declares that there is a public need for the rapid construction of safe and efficient transportation facilities for traveling within the state and that it is in the public's interest to provide for public-private partnership agreements to effectuate the construction of additional safe, convenient, and economical transportation facilities.

(3) The agency may request proposals for public-private transportation projects or, if it receives an unsolicited proposal, it must publish a notice in the Florida Administrative Register and, as provided in chapter 50, by Internet publication or by print in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the project it is located at least once a week for 2 weeks stating that it has received the proposal and will accept, for 60 days after the initial date of publication, other proposals for the same project purpose. A copy of the notice must be mailed to each local government in the affected areas. After the public notification period has expired, the agency shall rank the proposals in order of preference. In ranking the proposals, the agency shall consider professional qualifications, general business terms, innovative engineering or cost-reduction terms, finance plans, and the need for state funds to deliver the proposal. If the agency is not satisfied with the results of the negotiations, it may, at its sole

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discretion, terminate negotiations with the proposer. If these negotiations are unsuccessful, the agency may go to the second and lower-ranked firms, in order, using the same procedure. If only one proposal is received, the agency may negotiate in good faith, and if it is not satisfied with the results, it may, at its sole discretion, terminate negotiations with the proposer. The agency may, at its discretion, reject all proposals at any point in the process up to completion of a contract with the proposer.

Section 24. Subsection (3) of section 348.635, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

348.635 Public-private partnership.—The Legislature declares that there is a public need for the rapid construction of safe and efficient transportation facilities for traveling within the state and that it is in the public's interest to provide for public-private partnership agreements to effectuate the construction of additional safe, convenient, and economical transportation facilities.

(3) The authority may request proposals for public-private transportation projects or, if it receives an unsolicited proposal, it must publish a notice in the Florida Administrative Register and, as provided in chapter 50, by either Internet publication or by print in and a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the project it is located at least once a week for 2 weeks stating that it has received the proposal and will accept, for 60 days after the initial date of publication, other proposals for the same project purpose. A copy of the notice must be mailed to each local government in the affected areas. After the public notification period has

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expired, the authority shall rank the proposals in order of preference. In ranking the proposals, the authority shall consider professional qualifications, general business terms, innovative engineering or cost-reduction terms, finance plans, and the need for state funds to deliver the proposal. If the authority is not satisfied with the results of the negotiations, it may, at its sole discretion, terminate negotiations with the proposer. If these negotiations are unsuccessful, the authority may go to the second and lower-ranked firms, in order, using the same procedure. If only one proposal is received, the authority may negotiate in good faith, and if it is not satisfied with the results, it may, at its sole discretion, terminate negotiations with the proposer. The authority may, at its discretion, reject all proposals at any point in the process up to completion of a contract with the proposer.

Section 25. Subsection (3) of section 348.7605, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

348.7605 Public-private partnership.—The Legislature declares that there is a public need for the rapid construction of safe and efficient transportation facilities for traveling within the state and that it is in the public's interest to provide for public-private partnership agreements to effectuate the construction of additional safe, convenient, and economical transportation facilities.

(3) The authority may request proposals for public-private transportation projects or, if it receives an unsolicited proposal, it must publish a notice in the Florida Administrative Register and, as provided in chapter 50, by either Internet publication or by print in a newspaper of general circulation in

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the county in which the project it is located at least once a week for 2 weeks stating that it has received the proposal and will accept, for 60 days after the initial date of publication, other proposals for the same project purpose. A copy of the notice must be mailed to each local government in the affected areas. After the public notification period has expired, the authority shall rank the proposals in order of preference. In ranking the proposals, the authority shall consider professional qualifications, general business terms, innovative engineering or cost-reduction terms, finance plans, and the need for state funds to deliver the proposal. If the authority is not satisfied with the results of the negotiations, it may, at its sole discretion, terminate negotiations with the proposer. If these negotiations are unsuccessful, the authority may go to the second and lower-ranked firms, in order, using the same procedure. If only one proposal is received, the authority may negotiate in good faith, and if it is not satisfied with the results, it may, at its sole discretion, terminate negotiations with the proposer. The authority may, at its discretion, reject all proposals at any point in the process up to completion of a contract with the proposer.

Section 26. Section 373.0397, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

373.0397 Floridan and Biscayne aquifers; designation of prime groundwater recharge areas.—Upon preparation of an inventory of prime groundwater recharge areas for the Floridan or Biscayne aquifers, but prior to adoption by the governing board, the water management district shall publish a legal notice of public hearing on the designated areas for the

Floridan and Biscayne aquifers, with a map delineating the boundaries of the areas, <u>as provided</u> in newspapers defined in chapter 50 as having general circulation within the area to be affected. The notice shall be at least one-fourth page and shall read as follows:

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NOTICE OF PRIME RECHARGE

AREA DESIGNATION

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The ...(name of taxing authority)... proposes to designate specific land areas as areas of prime recharge to the ...(name of aquifer)... Aquifer.

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

A map of the affected areas follows.

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The governing board of the water management district shall adopt a designation of prime groundwater recharge areas to the Floridan and Biscayne aquifers by rule within 120 days after the public hearing, subject to the provisions of chapter 120.

Section 27. Section 373.146, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

373.146 Publication of notices, process, and papers.-

(1) Whenever in this chapter the publication of any notice, process, or paper is required or provided for, unless otherwise provided by law, the publication thereof in some newspaper or newspapers as provided defined in chapter 50 is having general circulation within the area to be affected shall be taken and

1335 considered as being sufficient.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, and except in the case of emergency meetings, water management districts may provide reasonable notice of public meetings held to evaluate responses to solicitations issued by the water management district, by publication as provided in chapter 50 in a newspaper of general paid circulation in the county where the principal office of the water management district is located, or in the county or counties where the public work will be performed, no less than 7 days before such meeting.

Section 28. Subsection (12) of section 403.722, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.722 Permits; hazardous waste disposal, storage, and treatment facilities.—

(12) On the same day of filing with the department of an application for a permit for the construction modification, or operation of a hazardous waste facility, the applicant shall notify each city and county within 1 mile of the facility of the filing of the application and shall publish notice of the filing of the application. The applicant shall publish a second notice of the filing within 14 days after the date of filing. Each notice shall be published as provided in chapter 50 in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the facility is located or is proposed to be located.

Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 50, for purposes of this section, a "newspaper of general circulation" shall be the newspaper within the county in which the installation or facility is proposed which has the largest daily circulation in

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(3) The person providing the notice referred to in s.

712.05, other than a notice for preservation of a community

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covenant or restriction, shall:

(b) Publish the notice referred to in s. 712.05 by Internet publication as provided in s. 50.0211(5) or printed once a week, for 2 consecutive weeks, in a newspaper as defined in chapter 50, the notice referred to in s. 712.05, with the official record book and page number in which such notice was recorded, in a newspaper as defined in chapter 50 in the county in which the property is located.

Section 30. Subsection (5) of section 849.38, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

849.38 Proceedings for forfeiture; notice of seizure and order to show cause.—

(5) If the value of the property seized is shown by the sheriff's return to have an appraised value of \$1,000 or less, the above citation shall be served by posting at three public places in the county, one of which shall be the front door of the courthouse; if the value of the property is shown by the sheriff's return to have an approximate value of more than \$1,000, the citation shall be posted for at least 2 consecutive weeks on a newspaper's website and the statewide legal notice website in accordance with s. 50.0211(5) or published in print at least once each week for 2 consecutive weeks in a some newspaper of general publication published in the county, if there is be such a newspaper published in the county. and If there is no newspaper of general circulation not, the then said notice of such publication shall be made by certificate of the clerk if publication is made by posting, and by affidavit as provided in chapter 50, if made by publication as provided in chapter 50 in a newspaper, which affidavit or certificate shall

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be filed and become a part of the record in the cause. Failure of the record to show proof of such publication shall not affect any judgment made in the cause unless it shall affirmatively appear that no such publication was made.

Section 31. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 865.09, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

865.09 Fictitious name registration.-

- (3) REGISTRATION. -
- (a) A person may not engage in business under a fictitious name unless the person first registers the name with the division by filing a registration listing:
 - 1. The name to be registered.
 - 2. The mailing address of the business.
 - 3. The name and address of each registrant.
- 4. If the registrant is a business entity that was required to file incorporation or similar documents with its state of organization when it was organized, such entity must be registered with the division and in active status with the division; provide its Florida document registration number; and provide its federal employer identification number if the entity has such a number.
- 5. Certification by at least one registrant that the intention to register such fictitious name has been advertised as provided at least once in a newspaper as defined in chapter 50 in the county in which the principal place of business of the registrant is or will be located.
- 6. Any other information the division may reasonably deem necessary to adequately inform other governmental agencies and the public as to the registrant so conducting business.

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Section 32. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section 932.704, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

932.704 Forfeiture proceedings.-

(6) (a) If the property is required by law to be titled or registered, or if the owner of the property is known in fact to the seizing agency, or if the seized property is subject to a perfected security interest in accordance with the Uniform Commercial Code, chapter 679, the attorney for the seizing agency shall serve the forfeiture complaint as an original service of process under the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure and other applicable law to each person having an ownership or security interest in the property. The seizing agency shall also publish, in accordance with chapter 50, notice of the forfeiture complaint for 2 consecutive weeks on a newspaper's website and the statewide legal notice website in accordance with s.

50.0211(5) or, if published in print, once each week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation, as defined in s. 165.031, in the county where the seizure occurred.

Section 33. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.

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