

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to legal notices; amending s. 50.011,  
3           F.S.; revising the requirements for newspapers  
4           publishing legal notices; deleting an option for  
5           publication on a newspaper's website; providing for  
6           the publication of legal notices on certain publicly  
7           accessible websites; amending ss. 50.021, 50.0211, and  
8           50.031, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by  
9           the act; creating s. 50.0311, F.S.; providing  
10          definitions; authorizing a governmental agency to  
11          publish legal notices on a publicly accessible website  
12          under certain circumstances; providing criteria for  
13          website publication; authorizing a fiscally  
14          constrained county to use a publicly accessible  
15          website to publish legally required advertisements and  
16          public notices only if certain requirements are met;  
17          requiring a governmental agency to provide specified  
18          notice to certain residents and property owners  
19          relating to alternative methods of receiving legal  
20          notices; authorizing a governmental agency to publish  
21          certain public notices and advertisements on its  
22          governmental access channels; providing a requirement  
23          for public bid advertisements made by governmental  
24          agencies on publicly accessible websites; amending s.  
25          50.051, F.S.; revising a form for affidavits of

26 publication; amending s. 50.061, F.S.; correcting a  
 27 cross-reference; amending s. 50.0711, F.S.; revising  
 28 provisions relating to the use of court docket funds;  
 29 amending ss. 11.02, 45.031, 90.902, 120.81, 121.055,  
 30 162.12, 189.015, 190.005, 200.065, 348.0308, 348.635,  
 31 348.7605, 849.38, and 932.704, F.S.; conforming  
 32 provisions to changes made by the act; providing an  
 33 effective date.

34

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

36

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

39 50.011 Publication of legal notices.—Whenever by statute  
 40 an official or legal advertisement or a publication, or notice  
 41 in a newspaper or on a governmental agency website has been or  
 42 is directed or permitted in the nature of or in lieu of process,  
 43 or for constructive service, or in initiating, assuming,  
 44 reviewing, exercising, or enforcing jurisdiction or power, or  
 45 for any purpose, including all legal notices and advertisements  
 46 of sheriffs and tax collectors, such legislation, whether  
 47 existing or repealed, means ~~the contemporaneous and continuous~~  
 48 ~~intent and meaning of such legislation all and singular,~~  
 49 ~~existing or repealed, is and has been and is hereby declared to~~  
 50 ~~be and to have been, and the rule of interpretation is and has~~

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51 ~~been~~ the following:

52       (1) A publication in a newspaper printed and published  
53 periodically at least once a week, containing at least 25  
54 percent of its words in the English language, entered or  
55 qualified to be admitted and entered as periodical class mail at  
56 a post office in the county where published, available to the  
57 public generally for the publication of official or other  
58 notices and customarily containing information of a public  
59 character or of interest or of value to the residents or owners  
60 of property in the county where published, or of interest or of  
61 value to the general public; or A publication in a newspaper  
62 ~~that meets all of the following:~~

63       ~~(a) Is printed and published periodically at least once a~~  
64 ~~week.~~

65       ~~(b) Contains at least 25 percent of its words in the~~  
66 ~~English language.~~

67       ~~(c) Satisfies one of the following criteria:~~

68       ~~1. Has an audience consisting of at least 10 percent of~~  
69 ~~the households in the county or municipality, as determined by~~  
70 ~~the most recent decennial census, where the legal or public~~  
71 ~~notice is being published or posted, by calculating the~~  
72 ~~combination of the total of the number of print copies~~  
73 ~~reflecting the day of highest print circulation, of which at~~  
74 ~~least 25 percent of such print copies must be delivered to~~  
75 ~~individuals' home or business addresses, as certified biennially~~

76 ~~by a certified independent third-party auditor, and the total~~  
77 ~~number of online unique monthly visitors to the newspaper's~~  
78 ~~website from within the state, as measured by industry-accepted~~  
79 ~~website analytics software. The newspaper must also be sold, or~~  
80 ~~otherwise available to the public, at no less than 10 publicly~~  
81 ~~accessible outlets. For legal and public notices published by~~  
82 ~~nongovernmental entities, the newspaper's audience in the county~~  
83 ~~or municipality where the project, property, or other primary~~  
84 ~~subject of the notice is located must meet the 10 percent~~  
85 ~~threshold.~~

86 ~~2. Holds a periodicals permit as of March 1, 2021, and~~  
87 ~~accepts legal notices for publication as of that date. Any such~~  
88 ~~newspaper may continue to publish legal notices through December~~  
89 ~~31, 2023, so long as the newspaper continues to meet the~~  
90 ~~requirements set forth in s. 21, chapter 99-2, Laws of Florida,~~  
91 ~~and continues to hold a periodicals permit. Beginning January 1,~~  
92 ~~2024, and thereafter, any such newspaper must meet the criteria~~  
93 ~~under subparagraph 1.~~

94 ~~3. For newspapers publishing legal notices in a fiscally~~  
95 ~~constrained county, holds a periodicals permit and meets all~~  
96 ~~other requirements of this chapter. A newspaper qualified under~~  
97 ~~this subparagraph does not need to meet the criteria under~~  
98 ~~subparagraph 1. so long as the newspaper continues to hold a~~  
99 ~~periodicals permit. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term~~  
100 ~~"fiscally constrained county" means a county within a rural area~~

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101 ~~of opportunity designated by the Governor pursuant to s.~~  
102 ~~288.0656 or a county for which the value of a mill will raise no~~  
103 ~~more than \$5 million in revenue, based on the certified taxable~~  
104 ~~value certified pursuant to s. 1011.62(4)(a)1.a., from the~~  
105 ~~previous July 1.~~

106 ~~(d) Is available to the public generally for the~~  
107 ~~publication of official or other notices with no more than 75~~  
108 ~~percent of its content dedicated toward advertising, as measured~~  
109 ~~in half of the newspaper's issues that are published during any~~  
110 ~~12-month period, and customarily containing information of a~~  
111 ~~public character or of interest or of value to the residents or~~  
112 ~~owners of property in the county where published, or of interest~~  
113 ~~or of value to the general public.~~

114 ~~(e) Continually publishes in a prominent manner the name,~~  
115 ~~street address, phone number, website URL of the newspaper's~~  
116 ~~approved print auditor, the newspaper's most recent statement of~~  
117 ~~ownership, and a statement of the auditor certifying the~~  
118 ~~veracity of the newspaper's print distribution and the number of~~  
119 ~~the newspaper's website's monthly unique visitors, or the~~  
120 ~~newspaper's periodicals permit, if applicable, within the first~~  
121 ~~five pages of the print edition and the bottom portion of the~~  
122 ~~homepage of the newspaper's website.~~

123 ~~(2) A publication on a publicly accessible website under~~  
124 ~~s. 50.0311 Internet publication for governmental agency notices~~  
125 ~~under s. 50.0211(1)(b) on the website of any newspaper in the~~

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126 ~~county to which the legal notice pertains and on the statewide~~  
127 ~~legal notice website as provided in s. 50.0211(5). A newspaper~~  
128 ~~is deemed to be a newspaper in the county to which the legal~~  
129 ~~notice pertains if it satisfies the criteria in subsection (1).~~

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

132 50.021 Publication when no newspaper in county.—When any  
133 law, or order or decree of court, directs advertisements to be  
134 made in a county and there is no newspaper published in the  
135 county, the advertisement may be published on a publicly  
136 accessible website as provided in s. 50.0311 ~~made by publication~~  
137 ~~in any newspaper qualified under this chapter in an adjoining~~  
138 ~~county or on the website of any such newspaper for governmental~~  
139 ~~agency notices under s. 50.0211(1)(b), and on the statewide~~  
140 ~~legal notice website as provided in s. 50.0211(5) or made by~~  
141 ~~posting three copies thereof in three different places in the~~  
142 ~~county, one of which shall be at the front door of the~~  
143 ~~courthouse, and by publication in the nearest county in which a~~  
144 ~~newspaper qualified under this chapter is published.~~

145 Section 3. Section 50.0211, Florida Statutes, is amended  
146 to read:

147 50.0211 Internet website publication.—

148 ~~(1) As used in this section, the term:~~

149 ~~(a) "Governmental agency" means a county, a municipality,~~  
150 ~~a district school board, or any other unit of local government~~

151 ~~or political subdivision in this state.~~

152 ~~(b) "Governmental agency notice" includes any of the~~  
 153 ~~following notices required by law to be published in a~~  
 154 ~~newspaper:~~

155 ~~1. Notices related to special or legal legislation~~  
 156 ~~pursuant to s. 11.02.~~

157 ~~2. Educational unit notices pursuant to s. 120.81.~~

158 ~~3. Retirement system notices pursuant to s. 121.0511.~~

159 ~~4. Notices related to inclusion of positions in the Senior~~  
 160 ~~Management Service Class of the Florida Retirement System~~  
 161 ~~pursuant to s. 121.055.~~

162 ~~5. Notices proposing the enactment of county ordinances~~  
 163 ~~pursuant to s. 125.66.~~

164 ~~6. Code enforcement notices published pursuant to s.~~  
 165 ~~162.12.~~

166 ~~7. Notices proposing the enactment of municipal ordinances~~  
 167 ~~pursuant to s. 166.041.~~

168 ~~8. Special district meeting notices pursuant to s.~~  
 169 ~~189.015.~~

170 ~~9. Establishment and termination notices for community~~  
 171 ~~development districts pursuant to ss. 190.005 and 190.046,~~  
 172 ~~respectively.~~

173 ~~10. Disclosures of tax impact by value adjustment boards~~  
 174 ~~pursuant to s. 194.037.~~

175 ~~11. Advertisements of real or personal property with~~

176 ~~delinquent taxes pursuant to s. 197.402.~~  
 177 ~~12. Advertisements of hearing notices, millage rates, and~~  
 178 ~~budgets pursuant to s. 200.065.~~  
 179 ~~13. Turnpike project notices pursuant to s. 338.223.~~  
 180 ~~14. Public-private partnership notices pursuant to ss.~~  
 181 ~~348.0308 and 348.7605.~~  
 182 ~~15. Notices of prime recharge area designations for the~~  
 183 ~~Floridan and Biscayne aquifers pursuant to s. 373.0397.~~  
 184 ~~16. Water management district notices pursuant to s.~~  
 185 ~~373.146.~~  
 186 ~~17. Hazardous waste disposal notices pursuant to s.~~  
 187 ~~403.722.~~  
 188 ~~18. Forfeiture notices pursuant to ss. 849.38 and 932.704.~~  
 189 (1)~~(2)~~ This section applies to legal notices that must be  
 190 published in accordance with this chapter unless otherwise  
 191 specified.  
 192 (2)~~(3)~~ If a governmental agency publishes a legal notice  
 193 in the print edition of a newspaper, each legal notice must be  
 194 published ~~posted~~ on the newspaper's website on the same day that  
 195 the printed notice appears in the newspaper, at no additional  
 196 charge, in a separate web page titled "Legal Notices," "Legal  
 197 Advertising," or comparable identifying language. A link to the  
 198 legal notices web page shall be provided on the front page of  
 199 the newspaper's website that provides access to the legal  
 200 notices. If there is a specified size and placement required for



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201 a printed legal notice, the size and placement of the notice on  
202 the newspaper's website must optimize its online visibility in  
203 keeping with the print requirements. The newspaper's web pages  
204 that contain legal notices must present the legal notices as the  
205 dominant and leading subject matter of those pages. The  
206 newspaper's website must contain a search function to facilitate  
207 searching the legal notices. A fee may not be charged, and  
208 registration may not be required, for viewing or searching legal  
209 notices on a newspaper's website if the legal notice is  
210 published in a newspaper.

211 (3) (a) ~~(4) (a)~~ If a legal notice is published in the print  
212 edition of a newspaper ~~or on a newspaper's website~~, the  
213 newspaper publishing the notice shall place the notice on the  
214 statewide website established and maintained as an initiative of  
215 the Florida Press Association as a repository for such notices  
216 located at the following address: [www.floridapublicnotices.com](http://www.floridapublicnotices.com).

217 (b) A legal notice placed on the statewide website created  
218 under this subsection must be:

219 1. Accessible and searchable by party name and case  
220 number.

221 2. Published ~~Posted~~ for a period of at least 90  
222 consecutive days after the first day of publication ~~posting~~.

223 (c) The statewide website created under this subsection  
224 shall maintain a searchable archive of all legal notices  
225 published ~~posted~~ on the publicly accessible website for 18

226 months after the first day of publication ~~posting~~. Such  
227 searchable archive shall be provided and accessible to the  
228 general public without charge.

229 ~~(d) The Florida Press Association shall seek to ensure~~  
230 ~~that minority populations throughout the state have equitable~~  
231 ~~access to legal notices posted on the statewide legal notice~~  
232 ~~website located at: [www.floridapublicnotices.com](http://www.floridapublicnotices.com). The Florida~~  
233 ~~Press Association shall publish a report listing all newspapers~~  
234 ~~that have placed notices on [www.floridapublicnotices.com](http://www.floridapublicnotices.com) in the~~  
235 ~~preceding calendar quarter. The report must specifically~~  
236 ~~identify which criteria under s. 50.011(1)(c)1.-3. each~~  
237 ~~newspaper satisfied. Each quarterly report must also include the~~  
238 ~~number of unique visitors to the statewide legal notice website~~  
239 ~~during that quarter and the number of legal notices that were~~  
240 ~~published during that quarter by Internet-only publication or by~~  
241 ~~publication in a print newspaper and on the statewide website.~~  
242 ~~At a minimum, the reports for the 4 preceding calendar quarters~~  
243 ~~shall be available on the website.~~

244 ~~(5)(a) In lieu of publishing a legal notice in the print~~  
245 ~~edition of a newspaper of general circulation, a governmental~~  
246 ~~agency may opt for Internet-only publication of governmental~~  
247 ~~agency notices with any newspaper of general circulation within~~  
248 ~~the jurisdiction of the affected governmental agency so long as~~  
249 ~~the governmental agency, after a public hearing noticed in a~~  
250 ~~print edition of a newspaper in accordance with this chapter,~~

251 ~~makes a determination by a majority of the members of the~~  
252 ~~governing body of the governmental agency that the Internet~~  
253 ~~publication of such governmental agency notices is in the public~~  
254 ~~interest and that the residents within the jurisdiction of the~~  
255 ~~governmental agency have sufficient access to the Internet by~~  
256 ~~broadband service as defined in s. 364.02 or through other means~~  
257 ~~such that Internet-only publication of governmental agency~~  
258 ~~notices would not unreasonably restrict public access. Any such~~  
259 ~~Internet-only publication published in accordance with this~~  
260 ~~subsection must be placed in the legal notices section of the~~  
261 ~~newspaper's website and the statewide legal notice website~~  
262 ~~established under subsection (4). All requirements regarding the~~  
263 ~~format and accessibility of legal notices placed on the~~  
264 ~~newspaper's website and the statewide legal notice website in~~  
265 ~~subsections (3) and (4) also apply to Internet-only publication~~  
266 ~~of legal notices published in accordance with this subsection. A~~  
267 ~~newspaper is deemed to be a newspaper of general circulation~~  
268 ~~within the jurisdiction of the affected governmental agency if~~  
269 ~~it satisfies the criteria in s. 50.011(1).~~

270 ~~(b) The legal notices section of the print edition of a~~  
271 ~~newspaper must include a disclaimer stating that additional~~  
272 ~~legal notices may be accessed on the newspaper's website and the~~  
273 ~~statewide legal notice website. The legal notices section of the~~  
274 ~~newspaper's website must also include a disclaimer stating that~~  
275 ~~legal notices are also published in the print edition of the~~

276 ~~newspaper and on the statewide legal notice website.~~

277 ~~(c) A newspaper may charge for the publication of any~~  
278 ~~governmental agency notice that is published only on the~~  
279 ~~newspaper's website, without rebate, commission, or refund;~~  
280 ~~however, the newspaper may not charge any higher rate for~~  
281 ~~publication than the amount that would be authorized under s.~~  
282 ~~50.061 if the governmental agency notice had been printed in the~~  
283 ~~newspaper. The penalties prescribed in s. 50.061(7) for allowing~~  
284 ~~or accepting any rebate, commission, or refund in connection to~~  
285 ~~the amounts charged for publication also apply to any~~  
286 ~~governmental agency notices that are published only on the~~  
287 ~~Internet in accordance with this subsection.~~

288 ~~(d) If a governmental agency exercises the option to~~  
289 ~~publish Internet-only governmental agency notices in accordance~~  
290 ~~with this subsection, such agency must provide notice at least~~  
291 ~~once per week in the print edition of a newspaper of general~~  
292 ~~circulation within the region in which the governmental agency~~  
293 ~~is located which states that legal notices pertaining to the~~  
294 ~~agency do not all appear in the print edition of the local~~  
295 ~~newspaper and that additional legal notices may be accessed on~~  
296 ~~the newspaper's website and that a full listing of any legal~~  
297 ~~notices may be accessed on the statewide legal notice website~~  
298 ~~located at [www.floridapublicnotices.com](http://www.floridapublicnotices.com). Additionally, any such~~  
299 ~~governmental agency must post a link on its website homepage to~~  
300 ~~a webpage that lists all of the newspapers in which the~~

301 ~~governmental agency publishes legal notices. A newspaper is~~  
 302 ~~deemed to be a newspaper of general circulation within the~~  
 303 ~~region in which the governmental agency is located if it~~  
 304 ~~satisfies the criteria in s. 50.011(1).~~

305 ~~(6) Newspapers that publish legal notices shall, upon~~  
 306 ~~request, provide e-mail notification of new legal notices when~~  
 307 ~~they are published in the newspaper or on the newspaper's~~  
 308 ~~website. Such e-mail notification shall be provided without~~  
 309 ~~charge, and notification for such an e-mail registry shall be~~  
 310 ~~available on the front page of the legal notices section of the~~  
 311 ~~newspaper's website.~~

312 ~~(7) Notwithstanding the authorization of Internet-only~~  
 313 ~~publication for certain governmental agency notices in~~  
 314 ~~accordance with subsection (5), any other statute requiring the~~  
 315 ~~publication of an official legal notice in the print edition of~~  
 316 ~~a newspaper may not be construed to be superseded.~~

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

319 50.031 Newspapers in which legal notices and process may  
 320 be published.  
 321 If a governmental agency publishes a legal notice  
 322 in a newspaper, no notice or publication required to be  
 323 ~~published in the print edition of a newspaper or on a~~  
 324 ~~newspaper's website, if authorized,~~ in the nature of or in lieu  
 325 of process of any kind, nature, character, or description  
 provided for under any law of the state, whether heretofore or

326 hereafter enacted, and whether pertaining to constructive  
 327 service, or the initiating, assuming, reviewing, exercising, or  
 328 enforcing jurisdiction or power, by any court in this state, or  
 329 any notice of sale of property, real or personal, for taxes,  
 330 state, county, or municipal, or sheriff's, guardian's, or  
 331 administrator's or any sale made pursuant to any judicial order,  
 332 decree, or statute or any other publication or notice pertaining  
 333 to any affairs of the state, or any county, municipality, or  
 334 other political subdivision thereof, shall be deemed to have  
 335 been published in accordance with the statutes providing for  
 336 such publication, unless the same shall have been published for  
 337 the prescribed period of time required for such publication, in  
 338 a newspaper ~~or on a newspaper's website~~ which at the time of  
 339 such publication shall have been in existence for 2 years and  
 340 meets the requirements set forth in s. 50.011, or in a newspaper  
 341 which is a direct successor of a newspaper which has been so  
 342 published; provided, however, that nothing herein contained  
 343 shall apply where in any county there shall be no newspaper in  
 344 existence which shall have been published for the length of time  
 345 above prescribed. No legal publication of any kind, nature, or  
 346 description, as herein defined, shall be valid or binding or  
 347 held to be in compliance with the statutes providing for such  
 348 publication unless the same shall have been published in  
 349 accordance with ~~the provisions of~~ this section or s. 50.0311 ~~s.~~  
 350 ~~50.0211(5)~~. Proof of such publication shall be made by uniform

351 affidavit.

352 Section 5. Section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, is created  
 353 to read:

354 50.0311 Publication of advertisements and public notices  
 355 on a publicly accessible website and governmental access  
 356 channels.-

357 (1) For purposes of this chapter, the term "governmental  
 358 agency" means a county, municipality, school board, or other  
 359 unit of local government or political subdivision in this state.

360 (2) For purposes of notices and advertisements required  
 361 under s. 50.011, the term "publicly accessible website" means a  
 362 county's official website or other private website designated by  
 363 the county for the publication of legal notices and  
 364 advertisements that is accessible via the Internet. All  
 365 advertisements and public notices published on a website as  
 366 provided in this chapter must be in searchable form and indicate  
 367 the date on which the advertisement or public notice was first  
 368 published on the website.

369 (3) A governmental agency may use the publicly accessible  
 370 website of the county in which it lies to publish legally  
 371 required advertisements and public notices if the cost of  
 372 publishing advertisements and public notices on such website is  
 373 less than the cost of publishing advertisements and public  
 374 notices in a newspaper.

375 (4) A special district spanning the geographic boundaries

376 of more than one county that satisfies the criteria for  
377 publishing and chooses to publish legally required  
378 advertisements and public notices on a publicly accessible  
379 website must publish such advertisements and public notices on  
380 the publicly accessible website of each county it spans. For  
381 purposes of this subsection, the term "special district" has the  
382 same meaning as in s. 189.012.

383 (5) A governmental agency that uses a publicly accessible  
384 website to publish legally required advertisements and public  
385 notices shall provide notice at least once per year in a  
386 newspaper of general circulation or another publication that is  
387 mailed or delivered to all residents and property owners  
388 throughout the government's jurisdiction, indicating that  
389 property owners and residents may receive legally required  
390 advertisements and public notices from the governmental agency  
391 by first-class mail or e-mail upon registering their name and  
392 address or e-mail address with the governmental agency. The  
393 governmental agency shall maintain a registry of names,  
394 addresses, and e-mail addresses of property owners and residents  
395 who have requested in writing that they receive legally required  
396 advertisements and public notices from the governmental agency  
397 by first-class mail or e-mail.

398 (6) A link to advertisements and public notices published  
399 on a publicly accessible website shall be conspicuously placed:

400 (a) On the website's homepage or on a page accessible



401 through a direct link from the homepage.

402 (b) On the homepage of the website of each governmental  
 403 agency publishing notices on the publicly accessible website or  
 404 on a page accessible through a direct link from the homepage.

405 (7) A governmental agency that has a governmental access  
 406 channel authorized under s. 610.109 may also include on its  
 407 governmental access channel a summary of all advertisements and  
 408 public notices that are published on a publicly accessible  
 409 website.

410 (8) A public bid advertisement made by a governmental  
 411 agency on a publicly accessible website must include a method to  
 412 accept electronic bids.

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

415 50.051 Proof of publication; form of uniform affidavit.—  
 416 The printed form upon which all such affidavits establishing  
 417 proof of publication are to be executed shall be substantially  
 418 as follows:

419 NAME OF COUNTY

420 STATE OF FLORIDA

421 COUNTY OF . . . . :

422 Before the undersigned authority personally appeared . . . . ,  
 423 who on oath says that he or she is . . . . of ~~the . . . . , a . . . .~~  
 424 ~~newspaper published at . . . . in . . . . County, Florida;~~ that the  
 425 attached copy of advertisement, being a . . . . in the matter of

426 .... in the .... Court, was published on the publicly accessible  
 427 website of .... County, Florida, or in a ~~said~~ newspaper by print  
 428 in the issues of .... ~~or by publication on the newspaper's~~  
 429 ~~website, if authorized,~~ on ... (date)....

430 Affiant further says that the website or newspaper complies  
 431 with all legal requirements for publication in chapter 50,  
 432 Florida Statutes.

433 Sworn to and subscribed before me this .... day of .....,  
 434 ...(year)...., by ....., who is personally known to me or who has  
 435 produced (type of identification) as identification.

436 ...(Signature of Notary Public)...  
 437 ...(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)...  
 438 ...(Notary Public)...

439 Section 7. Subsection (5) of section 50.061, Florida  
 440 Statutes, is amended to read:

441 50.061 Amounts chargeable.—

442 (5) If the public notice is published in the print edition  
 443 of a newspaper, the publishing ~~posting~~ of the notice on the  
 444 newspaper's website pursuant to s. 50.0211(2) ~~s. 50.0211(3)~~ must  
 445 be done at no additional charge.

446 Section 8. Section 50.0711, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 447 to read:

448 50.0711 Court docket fund; service charges; publications.—

449 (1) The clerk of the court in each county may establish a  
 450 court docket fund for the purpose of paying the cost of

451 publication of the fact of the filing of any civil case in the  
 452 circuit court of the county by the style and of the calendar  
 453 relating to such cases. This court docket fund shall be funded  
 454 by \$1 mandatory court cost for all civil actions, suits, or  
 455 proceedings filed in the circuit court of the county. The clerk  
 456 shall maintain such funds separate and apart, and the proceeds  
 457 from this court cost shall not be diverted to any other fund or  
 458 for any purpose other than that established in this section. The  
 459 clerk of the court shall dispense the fund to the designated  
 460 publicly accessible website publisher or record newspaper in the  
 461 county on a quarterly basis.

462 (2) If a judicial circuit publishes legal notices in a  
 463 newspaper, a newspaper qualified under the terms of s. 50.011  
 464 shall be designated as the record newspaper for such publication  
 465 by an order of the majority of the judges in the judicial  
 466 circuit in which such county is located, and such order shall be  
 467 filed and recorded with the clerk of the circuit court for such  
 468 county. The designated record newspaper may be changed at the  
 469 end of any fiscal year of the county by a majority vote of the  
 470 judges of the judicial circuit of the county ordering such  
 471 change 30 days prior to the end of the fiscal year, notice of  
 472 which order shall be given to the previously designated record  
 473 newspaper.

474 (3) The publicly accessible website publisher or  
 475 publishers of any designated record newspapers receiving payment

476 from this court docket fund shall publish, without additional  
 477 charge, the fact of the filing of any civil case, suit, or  
 478 action filed in such county in the circuit. Such publication  
 479 shall be in accordance with a schedule agreed upon between the  
 480 website publisher or record newspaper and the clerk of the court  
 481 in such county.

482 (4) The publicly accessible website publisher or  
 483 publishers of any designated record newspapers receiving  
 484 revenues from the court docket fund established in subsection  
 485 (1) shall, without charge, accept legal advertisements for the  
 486 purpose of service of process by publication under s. 49.011(4),  
 487 (10), and (11) when such publication is required of persons  
 488 authorized to proceed as indigent persons under s. 57.081.

489 Section 9. Section 11.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
 490 read:

491 11.02 Notice of special or local legislation or certain  
 492 relief acts.—The notice required to obtain special or local  
 493 legislation or any relief act specified in s. 11.065 shall be by  
 494 publishing the identical notice as provided in chapter 50 or  
 495 circulated throughout the county or counties where the matter or  
 496 thing to be affected by such legislation shall be situated one  
 497 time at least 30 days before introduction of the proposed law  
 498 into the Legislature or, if the notice is not published on a  
 499 publicly accessible website as provided in s. 50.0311 ~~made by~~  
 500 ~~Internet publication as provided in s. 50.0211(5)~~ and there is

501 ~~being~~ no newspaper circulated throughout or published in the  
 502 county, by posting for at least 30 days at not fewer ~~less~~ than  
 503 three public places in the county or each of the counties, one  
 504 of which places shall be at the courthouse in the county or  
 505 counties where the matter or thing to be affected by such  
 506 legislation shall be situated. Notice of special or local  
 507 legislation shall state the substance of the contemplated law,  
 508 as required by s. 10, Art. III of the State Constitution. Notice  
 509 of any relief act specified in s. 11.065 shall state the name of  
 510 the claimant, the nature of the injury or loss for which the  
 511 claim is made, and the amount of the claim against the affected  
 512 municipality's revenue-sharing trust fund.

513 Section 10. Subsection (2) of section 45.031, Florida  
 514 Statutes, is amended to read:

515 45.031 Judicial sales procedure.—In any sale of real or  
 516 personal property under an order or judgment, the procedures  
 517 provided in this section and ss. 45.0315-45.035 may be followed  
 518 as an alternative to any other sale procedure if so ordered by  
 519 the court.

520 (2) PUBLICATION OF SALE.—Notice of sale shall be published  
 521 on a publicly accessible website as provided in s. 50.0311 for  
 522 at least 2 consecutive weeks before the sale or once a week for  
 523 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation, as  
 524 provided ~~defined~~ in chapter 50, published in the county where  
 525 the sale is to be held. The second publication by newspaper

526 shall be at least 5 days before the sale. The notice shall  
 527 contain:

- 528 (a) A description of the property to be sold.
- 529 (b) The time and place of sale.
- 530 (c) A statement that the sale will be made pursuant to the  
 531 order or final judgment.
- 532 (d) The caption of the action.
- 533 (e) The name of the clerk making the sale.
- 534 (f) A statement that any person claiming an interest in  
 535 the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner  
 536 as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim before the  
 537 clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.

538  
 539 The court, in its discretion, may enlarge the time of the sale.  
 540 Notice of the changed time of sale shall be published as  
 541 provided herein.

542 Section 11. Subsection (12) of section 90.902, Florida  
 543 Statutes, is amended to read:

544 90.902 Self-authentication.—Extrinsic evidence of  
 545 authenticity as a condition precedent to admissibility is not  
 546 required for:

- 547 (12) A legal notice published in accordance with the  
 548 requirements of chapter 50 in the print edition of a qualified  
 549 newspaper or on a publicly accessible website as provided in s.  
 550 50.0311 ~~the website of a qualified newspaper.~~

551 Section 12. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section  
 552 120.81, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

553 120.81 Exceptions and special requirements; general  
 554 areas.—

555 (1) EDUCATIONAL UNITS.—

556 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter,  
 557 educational units shall not be required to include the full text  
 558 of the rule or rule amendment in notices relating to rules and  
 559 need not publish these or other notices in the Florida  
 560 Administrative Register, but notice shall be made:

561 1. By publication in a newspaper qualified under chapter  
 562 50 in the affected area or on a publicly accessible website as  
 563 provided in s. 50.0311;

564 2. By mail to all persons who have made requests of the  
 565 educational unit for advance notice of its proceedings and to  
 566 organizations representing persons affected by the proposed  
 567 rule; and

568 3. By posting in appropriate places so that those  
 569 particular classes of persons to whom the intended action is  
 570 directed may be duly notified.

571 Section 13. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
 572 121.055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

573 121.055 Senior Management Service Class.—There is hereby  
 574 established a separate class of membership within the Florida  
 575 Retirement System to be known as the "Senior Management Service

576 Class," which shall become effective February 1, 1987.

577 (1)

578 (b)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., effective  
579 January 1, 1990, participation in the Senior Management Service  
580 Class is compulsory for the president of each community college,  
581 the manager of each participating municipality or county, and  
582 all appointed district school superintendents. Effective January  
583 1, 1994, additional positions may be designated for inclusion in  
584 the Senior Management Service Class if:

585 a. Positions to be included in the class are designated by  
586 the local agency employer. Notice of intent to designate  
587 positions for inclusion in the class must be published for at  
588 least 2 consecutive weeks if published on a publicly accessible  
589 website as provided in s. 50.0311 ~~by Internet publication as~~  
590 ~~provided in s. 50.0211(5)~~ or, if published in print, once a week  
591 for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper qualified under chapter  
592 50 that is published in the county or counties affected.

593 b. Up to 10 nonelective full-time positions may be  
594 designated for each local agency employer reporting to the  
595 department; for local agencies with 100 or more regularly  
596 established positions, additional nonelective full-time  
597 positions may be designated, not to exceed 1 percent of the  
598 regularly established positions within the agency.

599 c. Each position added to the class must be a managerial  
600 or policymaking position filled by an employee who is not



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

603 (I) Heads an organizational unit; or

604 (II) Has responsibility to effect or recommend personnel,  
605 budget, expenditure, or policy decisions in his or her areas of  
606 responsibility.

607 2. In lieu of participation in the Senior Management  
608 Service Class, members of the Senior Management Service Class,  
609 pursuant to subparagraph 1., may withdraw from the Florida  
610 Retirement System altogether. The decision to withdraw from the  
611 system is irrevocable as long as the employee holds the  
612 position. Any service creditable under the Senior Management  
613 Service Class shall be retained after the member withdraws from  
614 the system; however, additional service credit in the Senior  
615 Management Service Class may not be earned after such  
616 withdrawal. Such members are not eligible to participate in the  
617 Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program.

618 3. Effective January 1, 2006, through June 30, 2006, an  
619 employee who has withdrawn from the Florida Retirement System  
620 under subparagraph 2. has one opportunity to elect to  
621 participate in the pension plan or the investment plan.

622 a. If the employee elects to participate in the investment  
623 plan, membership shall be prospective, and the applicable  
624 provisions of s. 121.4501(4) govern the election.

625 b. If the employee elects to participate in the pension

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626 | plan, the employee shall, upon payment to the system trust fund  
627 | of the amount calculated under sub-sub-subparagraph (I), receive  
628 | service credit for prior service based upon the time during  
629 | which the employee had withdrawn from the system.

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

643 |       (II) The employee must transfer a sum representing the net  
644 | cost owed for the actuarial accrued liability in sub-sub-  
645 | subparagraph (I) immediately following the time of such  
646 | movement, determined assuming that attained service equals the  
647 | sum of service in the pension plan and the period of withdrawal.

648 |       (h)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 3., effective  
649 | January 1, 1994, participation in the Senior Management Service  
650 | Class shall be compulsory for the State Courts Administrator and

651 the Deputy State Courts Administrators, the Clerk of the Supreme  
652 Court, the Marshal of the Supreme Court, the Executive Director  
653 of the Justice Administrative Commission, the capital collateral  
654 regional counsel, the clerks of the district courts of appeals,  
655 the marshals of the district courts of appeals, and the trial  
656 court administrator and the Chief Deputy Court Administrator in  
657 each judicial circuit. Effective January 1, 1994, additional  
658 positions in the offices of the state attorney and public  
659 defender in each judicial circuit may be designated for  
660 inclusion in the Senior Management Service Class of the Florida  
661 Retirement System, provided that:

662 a. Positions to be included in the class shall be  
663 designated by the state attorney or public defender, as  
664 appropriate. Notice of intent to designate positions for  
665 inclusion in the class shall be published for at least 2  
666 consecutive weeks on a publicly accessible website as provided  
667 in s. 50.0311 ~~by Internet publication as provided in s.~~  
668 ~~50.0211(5)~~ or, if published in print, once a week for 2  
669 consecutive weeks in a newspaper qualified under chapter 50 in  
670 the county or counties affected.

671 b. One nonelective full-time position may be designated  
672 for each state attorney and public defender reporting to the  
673 Department of Management Services; for agencies with 200 or more  
674 regularly established positions under the state attorney or  
675 public defender, additional nonelective full-time positions may

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676 | be designated, not to exceed 0.5 percent of the regularly  
677 | established positions within the agency.

678 |       c. Each position added to the class must be a managerial  
679 | or policymaking position filled by an employee who serves at the  
680 | pleasure of the state attorney or public defender without civil  
681 | service protection, and who:

682 |       (I) Heads an organizational unit; or

683 |       (II) Has responsibility to effect or recommend personnel,  
684 | budget, expenditure, or policy decisions in his or her areas of  
685 | responsibility.

686 |       2. Participation in this class shall be compulsory, except  
687 | as provided in subparagraph 3., for any judicial employee who  
688 | holds a position designated for coverage in the Senior  
689 | Management Service Class, and such participation shall continue  
690 | until the employee terminates employment in a covered position.  
691 | Effective January 1, 2001, participation in this class is  
692 | compulsory for assistant state attorneys, assistant statewide  
693 | prosecutors, assistant public defenders, and assistant capital  
694 | collateral regional counsel. Effective January 1, 2002,  
695 | participation in this class is compulsory for assistant  
696 | attorneys general.

697 |       3. In lieu of participation in the Senior Management  
698 | Service Class, such members, excluding assistant state  
699 | attorneys, assistant public defenders, assistant statewide  
700 | prosecutors, assistant attorneys general, and assistant capital

701 collateral regional counsel, may participate in the Senior  
 702 Management Service Optional Annuity Program as established in  
 703 subsection (6).

704 Section 14. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
 705 162.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

706 162.12 Notices.—

707 (2) In addition to providing notice as set forth in  
 708 subsection (1), at the option of the code enforcement board or  
 709 the local government, notice may be served by publication or  
 710 posting, as follows:

711 (a)1. Such notice shall be published in print in a  
 712 newspaper or on a publicly accessible website as provided in s.  
 713 50.0311 newspaper's website and the statewide legal notice  
 714 website as provided in s. 50.0211(5) for 4 consecutive weeks. If  
 715 published in print, the notice shall be published once during  
 716 each week for 4 consecutive weeks (four publications being  
 717 sufficient) in a newspaper in the county where the code  
 718 enforcement board is located. The newspaper shall meet such  
 719 requirements as are prescribed under chapter 50 for legal and  
 720 official advertisements.

721 2. Proof of publication shall be made as provided in ss.  
 722 50.041 and 50.051.

723 Section 15. Subsection (1) of section 189.015, Florida  
 724 Statutes, is amended to read:

725 189.015 Meetings; notice; required reports.—

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726 (1) The governing body of each special district shall file  
727 quarterly, semiannually, or annually a schedule of its regular  
728 meetings with the local governing authority or authorities. The  
729 schedule shall include the date, time, and location of each  
730 scheduled meeting. The schedule shall be published quarterly,  
731 semiannually, or annually in the manner required in this  
732 subsection. The governing body of an independent special  
733 district shall advertise the day, time, place, and purpose of  
734 any meeting other than a regular meeting or any recessed and  
735 reconvened meeting of the governing body, at least 7 days before  
736 such meeting as provided in chapter 50 in the county or counties  
737 in which the special district is located, unless a bona fide  
738 emergency situation exists, in which case a meeting to deal with  
739 the emergency may be held as necessary, with reasonable notice,  
740 so long as it is subsequently ratified by the governing body. No  
741 approval of the annual budget shall be granted at an emergency  
742 meeting. The notice shall be posted as provided in chapter 50.  
743 Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, and  
744 except in the case of emergency meetings, water management  
745 districts may provide reasonable notice of public meetings held  
746 to evaluate responses to solicitations issued by the water  
747 management district, as provided in chapter 50 by publication on  
748 a publicly accessible website ~~Internet publication~~ or by  
749 publication in a newspaper in the county where the principal  
750 office of the water management district is located, or in the

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751 county or counties where the public work will be performed, no  
752 fewer ~~less~~ than 7 days before such meeting.

753 Section 16. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section  
754 190.005, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

755 190.005 Establishment of district.—

756 (1) The exclusive and uniform method for the establishment  
757 of a community development district with a size of 2,500 acres  
758 or more shall be pursuant to a rule, adopted under chapter 120  
759 by the Florida Land and Water Adjudicatory Commission, granting  
760 a petition for the establishment of a community development  
761 district.

762 (d) A local public hearing on the petition shall be  
763 conducted by a hearing officer in conformance with the  
764 applicable requirements and procedures of the Administrative  
765 Procedure Act. The hearing shall include oral and written  
766 comments on the petition pertinent to the factors specified in  
767 paragraph (e). The hearing shall be held at an accessible  
768 location in the county in which the community development  
769 district is to be located. The petitioner shall cause a notice  
770 of the hearing to be published for 4 successive weeks on a  
771 publicly accessible website as provided in s. 50.0311  
772 ~~newspaper's website and the statewide legal notice website~~  
773 ~~provided in s. 50.0211(5)~~ or, if published in print, in a  
774 newspaper at least once a week for the 4 successive weeks  
775 immediately prior to the hearing as provided in chapter 50. Such

776 notice shall give the time and place for the hearing, a  
 777 description of the area to be included in the district, which  
 778 description shall include a map showing clearly the area to be  
 779 covered by the district, and any other relevant information  
 780 which the establishing governing bodies may require. If  
 781 published in the print edition of a newspaper, the advertisement  
 782 may not be placed in the portion of the newspaper where legal  
 783 notices and classified advertisements appear. The advertisement  
 784 must be published in a newspaper in the county and of general  
 785 interest and readership in the community pursuant to chapter 50.  
 786 Whenever possible, the advertisement shall appear in a newspaper  
 787 that is published at least weekly, unless the only newspaper in  
 788 the community is published less than weekly. If the notice is  
 789 published in the print edition of the newspaper, the map must  
 790 also be included in any online advertisement pursuant to s.  
 791 50.0211. All affected units of general-purpose local government  
 792 and the general public shall be given an opportunity to appear  
 793 at the hearing and present oral or written comments on the  
 794 petition.

795 Section 17. Paragraph (h) of subsection (3) of section  
 796 200.065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

797 200.065 Method of fixing millage.—

798 (3) The advertisement shall be published as provided in  
 799 chapter 50. If the advertisement is published in the print  
 800 edition of a newspaper, the advertisement must be no less than



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801 one-quarter page in size of a standard size or a tabloid size  
802 newspaper, and the headline in the advertisement shall be in a  
803 type no smaller than 18 point. The advertisement shall not be  
804 placed in that portion of the newspaper where legal notices and  
805 classified advertisements appear. The advertisement shall be  
806 published in a newspaper in the county or in a geographically  
807 limited insert of such newspaper. The geographic boundaries in  
808 which such insert is circulated shall include the geographic  
809 boundaries of the taxing authority. It is the legislative intent  
810 that, whenever possible, the advertisement appear in a newspaper  
811 that is published at least weekly unless the only newspaper in  
812 the county is published less than weekly, or that the  
813 advertisement appear in a geographically limited insert of such  
814 newspaper which insert is published throughout the taxing  
815 authority's jurisdiction at least twice each week. It is further  
816 the legislative intent that the newspaper selected be one of  
817 general interest and readership in the community pursuant to  
818 chapter 50.

819 (h) In no event shall any taxing authority add to or  
820 delete from the language of the advertisements as specified  
821 herein unless expressly authorized by law, except that, if an  
822 increase in ad valorem tax rates will affect only a portion of  
823 the jurisdiction of a taxing authority, advertisements may  
824 include a map or geographical description of the area to be  
825 affected and the proposed use of the tax revenues under

826 consideration. In addition, if published in the print edition of  
 827 the newspaper ~~or only published on the Internet in accordance~~  
 828 ~~with s. 50.0211(5)~~, the map must be included in the online  
 829 advertisement required by s. 50.0211. The advertisements  
 830 required herein shall not be accompanied, preceded, or followed  
 831 by other advertising or notices which conflict with or modify  
 832 the substantive content prescribed herein.

833 Section 18. Subsection (3) of section 348.0308, Florida  
 834 Statutes, is amended to read:

835 348.0308 Public-private partnership.—The Legislature  
 836 declares that there is a public need for the rapid construction  
 837 of safe and efficient transportation facilities for traveling  
 838 within the state and that it is in the public's interest to  
 839 provide for public-private partnership agreements to effectuate  
 840 the construction of additional safe, convenient, and economical  
 841 transportation facilities.

842 (3) The agency may request proposals for public-private  
 843 transportation projects or, if it receives an unsolicited  
 844 proposal, it must publish a notice in the Florida Administrative  
 845 Register and, as provided in chapter 50, on a publicly  
 846 accessible website ~~by Internet publication~~ or by print in a  
 847 newspaper qualified to publish legal notices in the county in  
 848 which the project is located at least once a week for 2 weeks  
 849 stating that it has received the proposal and will accept, for  
 850 60 days after the initial date of publication, other proposals

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851 for the same project purpose. A copy of the notice must be  
852 mailed to each local government in the affected areas. After the  
853 public notification period has expired, the agency shall rank  
854 the proposals in order of preference. In ranking the proposals,  
855 the agency shall consider professional qualifications, general  
856 business terms, innovative engineering or cost-reduction terms,  
857 finance plans, and the need for state funds to deliver the  
858 proposal. If the agency is not satisfied with the results of the  
859 negotiations, it may, at its sole discretion, terminate  
860 negotiations with the proposer. If these negotiations are  
861 unsuccessful, the agency may go to the second and lower-ranked  
862 firms, in order, using the same procedure. If only one proposal  
863 is received, the agency may negotiate in good faith, and if it  
864 is not satisfied with the results, it may, at its sole  
865 discretion, terminate negotiations with the proposer. The agency  
866 may, at its discretion, reject all proposals at any point in the  
867 process up to completion of a contract with the proposer.

868 Section 19. Subsection (3) of section 348.635, Florida  
869 Statutes, is amended to read:

870 348.635 Public-private partnership.—The Legislature  
871 declares that there is a public need for the rapid construction  
872 of safe and efficient transportation facilities for traveling  
873 within the state and that it is in the public's interest to  
874 provide for public-private partnership agreements to effectuate  
875 the construction of additional safe, convenient, and economical

876 transportation facilities.

877 (3) The authority may request proposals for public-private  
878 transportation projects or, if it receives an unsolicited  
879 proposal, it must publish a notice in the Florida Administrative  
880 Register and, as provided in chapter 50, on a publicly  
881 accessible website ~~by either Internet publication~~ or by print in  
882 a newspaper in the county in which the project is located at  
883 least once a week for 2 weeks stating that it has received the  
884 proposal and will accept, for 60 days after the initial date of  
885 publication, other proposals for the same project purpose. A  
886 copy of the notice must be mailed to each local government in  
887 the affected areas. After the public notification period has  
888 expired, the authority shall rank the proposals in order of  
889 preference. In ranking the proposals, the authority shall  
890 consider professional qualifications, general business terms,  
891 innovative engineering or cost-reduction terms, finance plans,  
892 and the need for state funds to deliver the proposal. If the  
893 authority is not satisfied with the results of the negotiations,  
894 it may, at its sole discretion, terminate negotiations with the  
895 proposer. If these negotiations are unsuccessful, the authority  
896 may go to the second and lower-ranked firms, in order, using the  
897 same procedure. If only one proposal is received, the authority  
898 may negotiate in good faith, and if it is not satisfied with the  
899 results, it may, at its sole discretion, terminate negotiations  
900 with the proposer. The authority may, at its discretion, reject

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901 all proposals at any point in the process up to completion of a  
902 contract with the proposer.

903 Section 20. Subsection (3) of section 348.7605, Florida  
904 Statutes, is amended to read:

905 348.7605 Public-private partnership.—The Legislature  
906 declares that there is a public need for the rapid construction  
907 of safe and efficient transportation facilities for traveling  
908 within the state and that it is in the public's interest to  
909 provide for public-private partnership agreements to effectuate  
910 the construction of additional safe, convenient, and economical  
911 transportation facilities.

912 (3) The authority may request proposals for public-private  
913 transportation projects or, if it receives an unsolicited  
914 proposal, it must publish a notice in the Florida Administrative  
915 Register and, as provided in chapter 50, on a publicly  
916 accessible website ~~by either Internet publication~~ or by print in  
917 a newspaper in the county in which the project is located at  
918 least once a week for 2 weeks stating that it has received the  
919 proposal and will accept, for 60 days after the initial date of  
920 publication, other proposals for the same project purpose. A  
921 copy of the notice must be mailed to each local government in  
922 the affected areas. After the public notification period has  
923 expired, the authority shall rank the proposals in order of  
924 preference. In ranking the proposals, the authority shall  
925 consider professional qualifications, general business terms,

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926 innovative engineering or cost-reduction terms, finance plans,  
927 and the need for state funds to deliver the proposal. If the  
928 authority is not satisfied with the results of the negotiations,  
929 it may, at its sole discretion, terminate negotiations with the  
930 proposer. If these negotiations are unsuccessful, the authority  
931 may go to the second and lower-ranked firms, in order, using the  
932 same procedure. If only one proposal is received, the authority  
933 may negotiate in good faith, and if it is not satisfied with the  
934 results, it may, at its sole discretion, terminate negotiations  
935 with the proposer. The authority may, at its discretion, reject  
936 all proposals at any point in the process up to completion of a  
937 contract with the proposer.

938 Section 21. Subsection (5) of section 849.38, Florida  
939 Statutes, is amended to read:

940 849.38 Proceedings for forfeiture; notice of seizure and  
941 order to show cause.—

942 (5) If the value of the property seized is shown by the  
943 sheriff's return to have an appraised value of \$1,000 or less,  
944 the above citation shall be served by posting at three public  
945 places in the county, one of which shall be the front door of  
946 the courthouse; if the value of the property is shown by the  
947 sheriff's return to have an approximate value of more than  
948 \$1,000, the citation shall be published by print or posted for  
949 at least 2 consecutive weeks on a publicly accessible website as  
950 provided in s. 50.0311 ~~newspaper's website and the statewide~~

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951 ~~legal notice website in accordance with s. 50.0211(5).~~ If  
952 published in print, the citation shall appear at least once each  
953 week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper qualified to publish  
954 legal notices under chapter 50 that is published in the county,  
955 if there is such a newspaper published in the county. If there  
956 is no such newspaper, the notice of such publication shall be  
957 made by certificate of the clerk if publication is made by  
958 posting, and by affidavit as provided in chapter 50, if made by  
959 publication as provided in chapter 50, which affidavit or  
960 certificate shall be filed and become a part of the record in  
961 the cause. Failure of the record to show proof of such  
962 publication shall not affect any judgment made in the cause  
963 unless it shall affirmatively appear that no such publication  
964 was made.

965 Section 22. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section  
966 932.704, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

967 932.704 Forfeiture proceedings.—

968 (6)(a) If the property is required by law to be titled or  
969 registered, or if the owner of the property is known in fact to  
970 the seizing agency, or if the seized property is subject to a  
971 perfected security interest in accordance with the Uniform  
972 Commercial Code, chapter 679, the attorney for the seizing  
973 agency shall serve the forfeiture complaint as an original  
974 service of process under the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure  
975 and other applicable law to each person having an ownership or

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976 security interest in the property. The seizing agency shall also  
977 publish, in accordance with chapter 50, notice of the forfeiture  
978 complaint for 2 consecutive weeks on a publicly accessible  
979 website ~~newspaper's website and the statewide legal notice~~  
980 ~~website in accordance with s. 50.0211(5)~~ or, if published in  
981 print, once each week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper  
982 qualified to publish legal notices under chapter 50 in the  
983 county where the seizure occurred.

984 Section 23. This act shall take effect January 1, 2023.