

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB2167
Version:	POLPCS1
Request Number:	12325
Author:	Rep. Pfeiffer
Date:	2/24/2025
Impact:	\$0

Research Analysis

The proposed policy committee substitute for HB2167 increases the fees that a newspaper can charge for publishing legal notices. For the first insertion of a notice, the per word fee is increased from 15 cent to 22 cents. For subsequent insertions, the fee is increased from 14 cent to 20 cents per word. Attempts to eliminate spaces between words or numeric descriptions is prohibited.

For all tabular matter such as graphics, maps, seals, signature blocks, forms and spreadsheets, the per line fee is increased from 70 cents to \$1.10 for the first insertion and from 65 cent to \$1 for subsequent insertions.

If the total calculated cost of words and lines is less than \$25, then the notice charge will be rounded up to a flat \$25. Newspaper are also allowed to charge a notary fee for providing affidavits or proof of publication.

The measure also requires newspapers to post the notice on their website and upload notices to statewide database of public notices. However, failure to post a notice online due to a temporary outage or service interruption is considered a harmless error and the notice requirement is considered met as long as the notice has been published in the printed version of a newspaper.

Newspaper may set the deadline to request a notice publication, but it cannot be more than 5 business days prior to the date of publication. If a newspaper fails to publish the notice in the correct print version, the newspaper must post the first insertion of the notice in a future issue at no charge.

Prepared By: Quyen Do

Fiscal Analysis

The POLPCS1 to HB2167 modifies fees related to the publication of legal notices. The fees are collected, deposited, and paid at the county level by the county treasurer from the general fund of the county or from the "Resale-Property Fund" of the county. Therefore, because the measure modifies fees that are assessed at the municipal level, there is no anticipated material impact on state budget or appropriations.

Prepared By: Robert Flipping IV, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.

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