

1 State of Arkansas  
2 91st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2017  
4

As Engrossed: S3/15/17

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 698

5 By: Senator B. King  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE PUBLICATION OF  
9 PUBLIC NOTICE OF BALLOT MEASURES; TO CREATE THE  
10 MANDATORY PUBLICATION REIMBURSEMENT FUND; AND FOR  
11 OTHER PURPOSES.  
12  
13

### Subtitle

14 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE  
15 PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC NOTICE OF BALLOT  
16 MEASURES; AND TO CREATE THE MANDATORY  
17 PUBLICATION REIMBURSEMENT FUND.  
18  
19  
20

21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
22

23 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-9-113 is amended to read as follows:*  
24 *7-9-113. Publication of notice.*

25 *(a)(1) The Secretary of State shall be charged with the duty of*  
26 *letting contracts for publishing notices as authorized in this section.*

27 *(2)(A) For measures proposed by petition, the petition sponsor*  
28 *shall reimburse the cost of publication to the Secretary of State within*  
29 *thirty (30) calendar days of notification of the final costs for publication.*

30 *(B) The Secretary of State shall provide the sponsor of*  
31 *the measure a complete cost breakdown including the:*

32 *(i) Number of locations where the measure was*  
33 *published;*

34 *(ii) Number of times the measure was published;*

35 *(iii) Dates the measure was published; and*

36 *(iv) Costs for publishing the measure.*



1 (C) The reimbursement shall be placed by the Secretary of  
 2 State into the Mandatory Publication Reimbursement Fund.

3 (b)(1) Before the election at which any proposed or referred measure  
 4 is to be voted upon by the people, notice shall be published in two (2)  
 5 weekly issues of some newspaper in each county as is provided by law.

6 (2)(A) Publication of the notice for amendments proposed by the  
 7 General Assembly shall commence six (6) months before the election.

8 (B) Publication of the notice for all other measures shall  
 9 commence eight (8) weeks before the election.

10 ~~(c) At least one (1) notice shall contain the number, the popular~~  
 11 ~~name, the ballot title, and a complete text of the measure to be submitted~~  
 12 ~~and shall be published in a camera-ready format in a type no smaller than~~  
 13 ~~ten-point type.~~

14 (c)(1) For amendments proposed by the General Assembly, at least one  
 15 (1) notice shall:

16 (A) Contain the number, the popular name, the ballot  
 17 title, and a complete text of the amendment to be submitted; and

18 (B) Be published in a camera-ready format in a type no  
 19 smaller than 10-point type.

20 (2) For all other proposed measures or amendments, at least one  
 21 (1) notice shall:

22 (A) Contain the number, the popular name, and the ballot  
 23 title of the measure to be submitted;

24 (B) Reference a website where the full text of the measure  
 25 is published; and

26 (C) Be published in a camera-ready format in a type no  
 27 smaller than 10-point type.

28 (d) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State, in connection with  
 29 ~~a copy~~ notice of the proposed ~~amendment~~ measure, to give notice in the same  
 30 newspapers that each elector on depositing his or her ballot at the election  
 31 shall vote for or against the ~~amendment~~ measure.  
 32

33 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 19, Chapter 5, Subchapter 12, is  
 34 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

35 19-5-1258. Mandatory Publication Reimbursement Fund

36 (a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the

1 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a miscellaneous  
2 fund to be known as the "Mandatory Publication Reimbursement Fund".

3 (b) The fund shall consist of reimbursements to the Secretary of State  
4 for mandatory publication of petitions and measures under § 7-9-113.

5

6

/s/B. King

7

8

9

**APPROVED: BECAME LAW ON 04/07/2017 WITHOUT THE GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE.**

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36