

Hall of the House of Representatives

94th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2023

Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 1616

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING PUBLICATION OF NOTICE; TO ALLOW THE PUBLICATION OF NOTICE ON A WEBSITE; TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES AND PUBLICATION; AND TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ELECTIONS.

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 1616

Amend House Bill No. 1616 as originally introduced:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 2-38-405 is amended to read as follows:
2-38-405. Notice of impounding.

When an animal found running at large along or on any public highway is delivered to the enclosure provided by the county court, the sheriff shall give notice of the impounding of the animal by causing a description of the animal to be inserted in some newspaper of general circulation in the county at least once a week for three (3) weeks or published on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126. In addition to a description of the animal, the published notice shall also state the place where the animal was found running at large and the date and time of its being taken up.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 3-3-312(c), concerning notice after seizure of alcoholic beverages, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The mayor or the county judge, as the case may be, shall cause a notice to be published. This shall be done within three (3) days after being authorized by the court to sell the seized intoxicating liquors. The notice shall be published in a newspaper having a countywide circulation and shall appear in the newspaper twice within a thirty-day period, fifteen (15) days apart or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 for thirty (30) days. The notice shall contain a list of the beverages authorized to be sold by the court, the approximate retail value thereof, the person, if known, from whom taken, the place where seized, and the advice that the beverages will be sold by the mayor or the county judge, as the case may be, at the expiration of thirty (30) days from the first published notice.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 3-9-206(b)(2), concerning notice of a referendum election, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The order of the quorum court shall fix the date of the election not more than ninety (90) days from the date of the order and give notice



~~thereof~~ by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or county by at least two (2) insertions, the last being not less than ten (10) days ~~prior to before~~ the election or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 for two (2) weeks before.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 5-5-101(e), concerning notice of sale of seized property, is amended to read as follows:

(e) The time and place of sale of seized property shall be advertised:

(1) For at least fourteen (14) days next before the day of sale by posting written notice at the courthouse door; and

(2) By publication in the form of at least two (2) insertions, at least three (3) days apart, before the day of sale in a weekly or daily newspaper published or customarily distributed in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 5-5-304(d)(1), concerning notice of sale of forfeited property, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) If a law enforcement agency desires to sell property forfeited to it ~~pursuant to~~ under § 5-5-302, the law enforcement agency shall first cause notice of the sale to be made by publication at least two (2) times a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in a newspaper having general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 and sending a copy of the notice of the sale by certified mail, return receipt requested, to any person having ownership of or a security interest in the property or in the manner provided in Rule 4 of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure, if:

(A) The property is of a type for which title or registration is required by law;

(B) The owner of the property is known in fact to the law enforcement agency at the time of seizure; or

(C) The property is subject to a security interest perfected in accordance with the Uniform Commercial Code, § 4-1-101 et seq.

SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 5-62-106(a)(3), concerning notice of seizure of an animal, is amended to read as follows:

(3) If the owner of the animal cannot be determined, a written notice regarding the seizure of the animal shall be conspicuously posted where the animal is seized at the time the seizure occurs if practicable and a notice shall be published in a local newspaper of general circulation in the jurisdiction where the animal was seized at least two (2) times each week, or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, for two (2) consecutive weeks, with the first notice published within three (3) days of the seizure, and no less than at least five (5) days before a hearing conducted under this section.

SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 5-65-117(b)(1), concerning notice of seizures and sales of motor vehicles, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The county sheriff shall advertise the motor vehicle or motorboat for sale for a period of two (2) weeks ~~prior to~~ before the date of sale by at least one (1) insertion per week in a newspaper having a bona fide

circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 5-73-130(m)(1), concerning notice of sale of a forfeited motor vehicle, is amended to read as follows:

(m)(1) If a law enforcement agency desires to sell a forfeited motor vehicle, the law enforcement agency shall first cause notice of the sale to be made by publication at least two (2) times a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in a newspaper having general circulation in the county, or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, and by sending a copy of the notice of the sale by certified mail, return receipt requested, to each person having ownership of or a security interest in the property or in the manner provided in Rule 4 of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure if:

(A) The property is of a type for which title or registration is required by law;

(B) The owner of the property is known in fact to the law enforcement agency at the time of seizure; or

(C) The property is subject to a security interest perfected in accordance with the Uniform Commercial Code, § 4-1-101 et seq.

SECTION 9. Arkansas Code § 7-5-101(e)(2)(C), concerning the establishment and alteration of precinct boundaries, polling sites, and vote centers, is amended to read as follows:

(C) Notice of a change made to a vote center location shall be posted at the vote center location used in the last election, and except for school elections and special elections, the notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 at least fifteen (15) days before the election.

SECTION 10. Arkansas Code § 7-5-202(a)(1), concerning public notice of elections, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) It shall be the duty of the county board of election commissioners at least eight (8) days before the beginning of early voting for a preferential primary, general primary, general election, general runoff, school, or special election to give public notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or by publication on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 of:

(A) The date of the election;

(B) The hours of voting on election day;

(C) The places and times for early voting;

(D) Polling sites for holding the elections in the county;

(E) The candidates and offices to be elected at that time;

(F) The time and location of the opening, processing, canvassing, and counting of ballots;

(G) The location where lists of appointed election officials, deputy county clerks, or additional deputies hired to conduct early voting can be found and the dates the lists are available; and

(H) Directions for filing a written objection to the service of an election official, deputy county clerk, or additional deputy.

SECTION 11. Arkansas Code § 7-5-202(b)(1), concerning public notice of elections, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) At least five (5) days before a preferential primary, general primary, general election, general runoff, school election, or special election, a copy of the public notice may be posted at each polling site fixed for holding the election and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 12. Arkansas Code § 7-5-207(c)(2), concerning ballots, names included on ballots, and the draw for ballot position, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Notice of the public meeting shall be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or published on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 at least three (3) days before the drawing.

SECTION 13. Arkansas Code § 7-5-509(a)(2), concerning voting machines used for demonstration, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Public notice of the times and places where voting machines will be exhibited shall be given at least forty-eight (48) hours before the first date of demonstration by publication one (1) time in one (1) or more daily or weekly newspapers published in the town, city, or county using the machines if a newspaper is published in the town, city, or county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 14. Arkansas Code § 7-5-515(c)(2)(A), concerning the preparation of voting machines for an election, including logic and accuracy testing and public testing, is amended to read as follows:

(A) The county board of election commissioners shall give public notice of the time and place of the test at least forty-eight (48) hours ~~prior to~~ before the public test by publication one (1) time in one (1) or more daily or weekly newspapers published in the town, city, or county using the machines if a newspaper is published in the town, city, or county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126;

SECTION 15. Arkansas Code § 7-5-516 is amended to read as follows:

7-5-516. Notice to candidates of preparation – Rules and statutes unaffected.

Before the county board of election commissioners begins the preparation of the machines for any election, it shall publish a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 stating:

(1) The time and place the machines will be prepared for the election; and

(2) A time at which one (1) representative of each candidate may inspect to see that the machines are in proper condition for use in the election.

SECTION 16. Arkansas Code § 7-5-611(b)(1), concerning preparation of electronic vote tabulating devices, tests, and disposition of voting materials, is amended to read as follows:

(1) The county board of election commissioners shall provide public notice of the time and place of the public test at least forty-eight (48) hours prior thereto by publication one (1) time in one (1) or more daily or weekly newspapers published in the town, city, or county using the devices, if a newspaper is published ~~therein~~ in the town, city, or county on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126;

SECTION 17. Arkansas Code § 7-7-305(b)(2), concerning printing of ballots, their form, and the draw for ballot position, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The county board of election commissioners shall give at least ten (10) days' written notice of the time and place of the meeting to the chairs of the county committees if the chairs are not members of the county board of election commissioners, and at least three (3) days before the meeting, shall publish notice of the time and place of holding the meeting in some newspaper of general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 18. Arkansas Code § 7-11-103(b), concerning filling vacancies in state, federal, or district offices, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The county board of election commissioners shall cause the proclamation, ordinance, resolution, order, or other authorized document to be published as soon as practicable in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the special election is held or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 19. Arkansas Code § 7-11-104(b), concerning filling vacancies in local offices, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The county board of election commissioners shall cause the proclamation, ordinance, resolution, order, or other authorized document to be published as soon as practicable in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the special election is held or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 20. Arkansas Code § 7-11-202(b), concerning calling special elections on state measures or questions, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The county board of election commissioners shall publish the document as soon as practicable in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the special election is held or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 21. Arkansas Code § 7-11-203(b), concerning calling special elections on local measures or questions, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The county board of election commissioners shall publish the document as soon as practicable in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the special election is held or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 22. Arkansas Code § 8-5-606(b)(3), concerning notice of wastewater projects or solid waste disposal projects privatization contracts, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The notice shall be published in a newspaper having general circulation within the county in which a substantial portion of the wastewater project or solid waste disposal project is located by one (1) publication each week for a period of two (2) weeks. The first publication shall be not less than fourteen (14) days ~~prior to~~ before the adoption of the ordinance approving the execution of the privatization contract or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 23. Arkansas Code § 8-5-607(b)(3), concerning notice of service agreements, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The notice shall be published on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 or in a newspaper having general circulation within the county in which a substantial portion of the wastewater project or solid waste disposal project is located by one (1) publication each week for a period of two (2) weeks. The first publication shall be not less than fourteen (14) days ~~prior to~~ before the adoption of the ordinance approving the execution of the service agreement.

SECTION 24. Arkansas Code § 8-6-414(b)(1), concerning notification to motor vehicle owners and lienholders, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) If the identity of the last registered owner of the junk motor vehicle cannot be determined, if the certificate of registration or certificate of title ~~contains no~~ does not contain an address for the owner, or if it is impossible to determine with reasonable certainty the identity and addresses of all lienholders, then notice shall be published in a newspaper of countywide circulation in the county wherein the junk motor vehicle was located at the time the enforcement agency took custody and possession of the junk motor vehicle or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 25. Arkansas Code § 8-6-414(c), concerning notification to motor vehicle owners and lienholders is amended to read as follows:

(c) The consequences and effect of failure to reclaim a junk motor vehicle within the ten-day period after notice is received by registered or certified mail or within ten (10) days after the notice is published in a newspaper as prescribed or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 shall be set forth in the notice.

SECTION 26. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1104(d)(3), concerning notice of prospective purchase of a contaminated site, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The prospective purchaser shall provide notice of the implementing agreement in a newspaper of general circulation that serves the area in which the abandoned site is located or by publishing the implementing agreement on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 27. Arkansas Code § 14-14-104 is amended to read as follows:
14-14-104. Publication requirements.

(a) Unless otherwise specifically provided, when a county government is required to publish, publication shall be by a one-time insertion in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(b) Where no newspaper of general circulation exists in a county and the county government chooses not to publish on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, publication may be made by posting in three (3) public places which have been designated by ordinance.

SECTION 28. Arkansas Code § 14-14-405(b), concerning filing and publishing of an apportionment plan, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Within fifteen (15) days of the filing of an apportionment plan, the clerk of the county court shall cause notice to be published in a newspaper of general circulation or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 in the county the district boundaries apportioned and the number of inhabitants within them.

SECTION 29. Arkansas Code § 14-14-406 is amended to read as follows:
14-14-406. Contest of apportionment.

(a) Original jurisdiction of any suit to contest the apportionment made for county quorum court districts by a county board of election commissioners is vested in the circuit court of the affected county.

(b) Any ~~such~~ contest under subsection (a) of this section shall be filed with the circuit court within thirty (30) days following the date of publication ~~appears~~ in a newspaper of general circulation or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 30. Arkansas Code § 14-14-609(b)(1), concerning notice of a referendum or proposed plan, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) Any ordinance or initiative petition submitting an alternative organization proposal to the voters shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 no later than the first day of filing for the preferential primary immediately preceding the general election at which the alternative county government proposal shall be decided.

SECTION 31. Arkansas Code § 14-14-905(b)(2), concerning adoption and amendment of ordinances generally, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Amendment to Existing Ordinances. No county ordinance shall be revised or amended, or the provisions thereof extended or conferred, by reference to its title only, but ~~so much thereof as is~~ the portion of the ordinance that is being revised, amended, extended, or conferred shall be reenacted and published ~~at length~~ in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 32. Arkansas Code § 14-14-905(d)(1)(B), concerning adoption and amendment of ordinances generally, is amended to read as follows:

(B) The ordinances or amendments shall then be published by the county clerk as prescribed by law or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 33. Arkansas Code § 14-14-917(c), concerning initiative and referendum elections, is amended to read as follows:

(c) Notice of Election.

(1) Initiative Petitions. Upon certification of any initiative or referendum petition measure submitted during the time limitations for a regular election, the county clerk shall give notice through publication by a two-time insertion, at not less than a seven-day interval, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or as provided by law or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126. Publication notice shall state that the measure will be submitted to the electors for adoption or rejection at the next regular election and shall include the full text, the ballot title, and the official numeric designation of the measure.

(2) Referendum Petition. Upon certifying any referendum petition ~~prior to~~ before the time limitations of filing measures established for a regular election, the county clerk shall give notice through publication by a one-time insertion in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or as provided by law or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126. Publication notice shall state that the measure will be submitted to the electors for adoption or rejection at the next regular election or a special election when ordered by the county court and shall include the full text, the ballot title, and the official numeric designation of the measure.

(3) Publication of Special Referendum Election Notice. Upon filing of a special election order by the county court, the county clerk shall give notice of the election through publication by a two-time insertion, at not less than a seven-day interval, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or as provided by law or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126. Publication shall state that the measure will be submitted to the electors for adoption or rejection at a special election and shall include the full text, the date of the election, the ballot title, and official numeric designation of the measure.

(4) Costs. ~~The Any cost of all publication to publish~~ Any cost of all publication to publish notices required in this section shall be paid out of the county general fund.

SECTION 34. Arkansas Code § 14-16-105(e)(2)(A), concerning notice of sale of county property, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) Notice of the sale shall be published for two (2) consecutive weekly insertions in some newspaper published and having a general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 35. Arkansas Code § 14-16-106(b)(1), concerning notice of public auction or internet sale, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) Notice of the public auction shall be published at least one (1) time a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in a newspaper having general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 36. Arkansas Code § 14-16-110(b)(1), concerning notice of public hearing of a petition is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) Immediately upon the filing of the petition, the judge of the county court shall make an order fixing a time and place for a public hearing on the petition, notice of which order shall be given by the county clerk by publication one (1) time in a legal newspaper having a bona fide legal circulation in the county or county district or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 at least ten (10) days ~~prior to~~ before the date fixed for the hearing.

SECTION 37. Arkansas Code § 14-16-302(a)(1), concerning notice inviting sealed bids for real property, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A) The county judge shall publish a notice inviting sealed bids for the leasing, letting, selling, or conveying of real property for the production, reclamation, and refining of crude biogenic gases.

(B) The notice under subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section ~~This~~ notice shall be published in a legal newspaper in the county where the property is located one (1) time each week for the four (4) weeks immediately ~~prior to~~ before the date set for receiving bids or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 38. Arkansas Code § 14-18-106(b)(1), concerning notice of filing of a petition to vacate a street, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) Upon the filing of the petition, the county clerk shall promptly give notice, by publication once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in some newspaper published in the county and having a general circulation ~~therein~~ in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, that the petition has been filed and that on a certain day therein named the county court will hear all persons desiring to be heard on the question of whether the street, alley, or roadway, or portion thereof, shall be vacated.

SECTION 39. Arkansas Code § 14-19-107(a)(2), concerning notice of the meeting of the court, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) Notice of the meeting of the court shall be published ten (10) days by advertisement in ~~some a~~ newspaper printed in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(B) If there is no such paper or if the county does not publish on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, the publication shall be by written notices posted at ~~some a~~ public place at the county site of the county and at nine (9) other public places in the county, ten (10) days before the convening of such court.

SECTION 40. Arkansas Code § 14-21-102(b)(1), concerning publication of the annual finance report of a county, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1)(A) The clerk of the county court shall publish the annual financial report of the county:

(i) One (1) time in one (1) newspaper published in the county; and

(ii) On a website owned or maintained by the county, the state, or the Association of Arkansas Counties that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(B) If a newspaper is not published in the county, the clerk of the county court shall publish the annual financial report of the county one (1) time in the newspaper having the largest circulation in the county.

SECTION 41. Arkansas Code § 14-22-101(2)(A), concerning notice of formal bidding, is amended to read as follows:

(A) Notice shall be given of the date, time, and place of opening of bids, and the names or a brief description and the specifications of the commodities for which bids are to be received, by one (1) insertion in a newspaper with a general circulation in the county or published on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, not less than ten (10) days nor more than thirty (30) days ~~prior to~~ before the date fixed for opening such bids;

SECTION 42. Arkansas Code § 14-37-112(b)(2)(B), concerning notice of procedure on how an incorporated town may become a city of the second class, is amended to read as follows:

(B) However, the mayor of the incorporated town which has been raised to a city of the second class may call a special election by proclamation, to be held in accordance with § 7-11-101 et seq., which shall be published by two (2) insertions in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the city is located or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(C) The This special election under subdivision (b)(2)(B) of this section shall be held for the purpose of electing officers for the city of the second class.

SECTION 43. Arkansas Code § 14-38-115(g)(1)(D), concerning notice of an alternative method for municipal incorporation, is amended to read as follows:

(D) The county clerk shall give notice of the election by publication by at least one (1) insertion in some newspaper having a general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 44. Arkansas Code § 14-40-303(c)(1)(D), concerning notice of election by the city clerk, is amended to read as follows:

(D) The city clerk shall give notice of the election by publication by at least one (1) insertion in some newspaper having a general circulation in the city or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 45. Arkansas Code § 14-40-1202(a)(1)(B), concerning notice of a special election called, is amended to read as follows:

(B) The court shall give thirty (30) days' notice of the election by publication one (1) time a week in some newspaper with a bona fide circulation in the territory and by notices posted in conspicuous places in the territory or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 46. Arkansas Code § 14-40-1902(a), concerning notice of hearing and determination, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) Upon the filing of the petition, the county court shall set a date for hearing ~~thereon~~ the petition, not less than fifteen (15) days nor more than thirty (30) days after the first publication of notice of the filing of the petition.

(2) Notice of the filing under subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall be published once each week for not less than two (2) weeks in a newspaper having a general circulation in the city or incorporated town or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 47. Arkansas Code § 14-41-305(a), concerning notice of petition, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Upon the filing of a petition, the county court shall immediately cause notice to be published for two (2) consecutive weeks by at least two (2) insertions in some newspaper published in the county having a bona fide circulation ~~therein~~ in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, stating the substance contained in the petition.

SECTION 48. Arkansas Code § 14-42-206(d)(2)(B), concerning notice of an ordinance requiring independent candidates for municipal office to file a petition, is amended to read as follows:

(B) The ordinance shall be published at least one (1) time a week for two (2) consecutive weeks immediately following adoption of the ordinance in a newspaper having a general circulation in the city or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, and shall be filed with the county clerk.

SECTION 49. Arkansas Code § 14-42-304(c), concerning notice of proposed amendment to a charter, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The proposed amendment shall be published at least one (1) time in some newspaper of general circulation throughout the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 50. Arkansas Code § 14-47-106(b)(1)(B), concerning notice of election on a city manager form of government, is amended to read as follows:

(B) The proclamation shall be published at length in some newspaper published in the city for one (1) time, and notice of the election shall be published in some newspaper published in the city one (1) time a week for two (2) weeks or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, the first publication to be not less than fifteen (15) days before the date set for the election.

(C) No other notice of the election shall be necessary;

SECTION 51. Arkansas Code § 14-47-107(a)(2), concerning notice of a subsequent election on an aldermanic form of government, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) The proclamation shall be published at length one (1) time in a newspaper published in the city or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(B)(i) Notice of the election shall be published in a newspaper published in the city one (1) time a week for two (2) weeks or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, the first publication to be not less than fifteen (15) days before the date set for the election.

(ii) No other notice of the election is necessary.

SECTION 52. Arkansas Code § 14-47-140(i), concerning authorization for an election concerning mayor, is amended to read as follows:

(i) Within thirty (30) calendar days after completion of the tabulation of the votes, the mayor of the city shall proclaim the results of the election by issuing a proclamation and publishing it one (1) time in a newspaper having general circulation within the city or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 53. Arkansas Code § 14-48-104(c)(2)(A), concerning submission of a governmental form question to electors, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) The proclamation shall be published one (1) time at length in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 54. Arkansas Code § 14-48-105(b)(2)(B)(i), concerning the procedure to change to another form of government, is amended to read as follows:

(B)(i) Notice of the election shall be published one (1) time a week for two (2) weeks in a newspaper having a general circulation in the city or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, the first publication to be not less than fifteen (15) days before the date set for the election.

SECTION 55. Arkansas Code § 14-48-109(a)(1)(B)(ii), concerning election of directors and mayor, is amended to read as follows:

(ii) A proclamation of the election shall be signed by the mayor and published in accordance with § 7-11-101 et seq. in some newspaper having a bona fide circulation in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126;

SECTION 56. Arkansas Code § 14-54-903(g), concerning refusal of an owner to comply, is amended to read as follows:

(g) If the name of the owner cannot be determined, then the amount of the clean-up lien or court lien shall be determined at a public hearing before the governing body of the city or town only after publication of notice of the hearing in a newspaper having a bona fide circulation in the county where the property is located for one (1) insertion per week or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 for four (4) consecutive weeks.

SECTION 57. Arkansas Code § 14-54-1101(b)(2)(A), concerning notice of livestock running at large, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A)(i) If the owner of the stock is unknown to the person or officer taking up or impounding, then that person or officer shall post written notices in at least three (3) public places in the incorporated

towns, and by notice in some newspaper in cities of the first and second class or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(ii) This notice shall give a description of the animal, set out therein the marks, brands, and flesh marks of the animals so impounded, and call upon the owner of the animal to prove his ownership or interest therein to such person or officer having it in his possession or custody, within ten (10) days after the publication of the notice.

SECTION 58. Arkansas Code § 14-55-206(a), concerning publishing or posting requirements by a municipality, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A) All bylaws or ordinances of a general or permanent nature and all those imposing any fine, penalty, or forfeiture shall be published:

(i) ~~in some~~ In a newspaper published in the municipality; or

(ii) On a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(B) In municipalities in which no newspaper is published, written or printed notice posted in five (5) of the most public places designated by the governing body in an ordinance or minutes of the governing body shall also be deemed a sufficient publication of any law or ordinance.

(2) It shall be deemed a sufficient defense to any suit or prosecution of such fine, penalty, or forfeiture imposed by law or ordinance to show that no notice was given ~~as provided herein~~ under this section.

SECTION 59. Arkansas Code § 14-56-416(b)(3)(B), concerning zoning ordinances, is amended to read as follows:

(B) Each session of the board shall be a public meeting with public notice of the meeting and business to be carried on published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, at least one (1) time seven (7) days ~~prior to~~ before the meeting.

SECTION 60. Arkansas Code § 14-56-422(1)(B), concerning adoption of plans, ordinances, and regulations, is amended to read as follows:

(B) Notice of public hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 at least one (1) time for fifteen (15) days ~~prior to~~ before the hearing .

SECTION 61. Arkansas Code § 14-57-605(b)(2)(A), concerning notice of election, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) Notice of the election shall be given by the presiding officer of the legislative body of the issuing municipality by advertisement:

(i) ~~once~~ Once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in some newspaper published in the municipality or, if no newspaper is published therein, in a newspaper having a bona fide and general circulation therein; or

(ii) On a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 62. Arkansas Code § 14-57-605(b)(4)(A), concerning notice of election for issuance of revenue bonds, is amended to read as follows:

(4)(A) The result of the election, after the vote has been canvassed by the county board of election commissioners, shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the legislative body. His or her proclamation shall be published;

(i) ~~one~~ One (1) time in some newspaper published in the municipality or, if none is published therein, in a newspaper having a bona fide circulation therein; or

(ii) On a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 63. Arkansas Code § 14-57-606(c), concerning notice of form and sale of bonds, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) The bonds shall be sold at a public sale after advertisement once a week for three (3) weeks in some newspaper published in the county in which the municipality lies or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 et seq.

(2) The first publication shall be not less than twenty (20) days before the date fixed for the sale.

SECTION 64. Arkansas Code § 14-58-303(b)(2)(A)(i), concerning notice of purchases and contracts for cities of the first class, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A)(i) Except as provided under § 14-58-104, in a city of the first class in which the amount of expenditure for any purpose or contract exceeds the sum of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000), the mayor or the mayor's authorized representative shall invite competitive bidding on the purpose or contract by legal advertisement in any local newspaper or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 65. Arkansas Code § 14-58-1001(b)(3), concerning notice of the intention of a municipality to receive written proposals for projects exceeding two million dollars, is amended to read as follows:

(3) A municipality shall:

(A) Publish notice of its intention to receive written proposals three (3) consecutive days in a newspaper of local distribution or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126;

(B) Allow a minimum of ten (10) working days from the first date of publication for the professionals to send letters or resumes in response to the newspaper or website advertisement; and

(C) Provide additional means of notification, if any, as the municipality shall determine is appropriate.

SECTION 66. Arkansas Code § 14-59-116 is amended to read as follows:
14-59-116. Annual publication of financial statement.

(a)(1)(A) The governing body of each municipality shall publish annually a financial statement of the municipality, including receipts and expenditures for the period and a statement of the indebtedness and financial condition of the municipality.

(B) The financial statement shall be published;

(i) ~~one~~ One (1) time in a newspaper published in the municipality; or

(ii) On a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(2) ~~This~~ The financial statement under subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall be at least as detailed as the minimum record of accounts as provided in this chapter.

(3) ~~This~~ The financial statement shall be published by April 1 of the following year.

(b) In municipalities in which no newspaper is published, posting the financial statement ~~shall be posted~~ in two (2) of the most public places in the municipality shall be considered sufficient publication.

SECTION 67. Arkansas Code § 14-72-205(c), concerning the refunding of bonds issued under the provisions of the Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 17, and laws in aid thereof, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) ~~This~~ The order under subsection (b) of this section shall be published one (1) time in some newspaper published in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(2) If no suit is brought within thirty (30) days after the publication to review the correctness of the finding made in the order, the finding shall be conclusive of the proportionate part of the funding bond issue represented by indebtedness for the construction of a courthouse or a jail, or both, and shall not be open to further attack.

SECTION 68. Arkansas Code § 14-72-302(c), concerning notice of bonds sold at public auction, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) The bonds may be sold at public auction or upon sealed bids after notice by publication ~~once a week~~ not less than seven (7) days before the date of sale and for at least three (3) insertions in some newspaper published and having a bona fide circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(2) The last insertion or publication on the website under subdivision (c)(1) of this section is to be not less than seven (7) days before the date of sale, or they may be exchanged at par for warrants maturing on their date.

SECTION 69. Arkansas Code § 14-72-304(b), concerning the form of ballot, returns, and appeals for county bonds issued for courthouses and jails, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The election officers shall make their returns of the result of the election to the county court which shall then enter of record an order showing the number of votes cast in favor of the bond issue and the number cast against it, and the clerk of the court shall publish the order for one (1) insertion in some newspaper having a general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 70. Arkansas Code § 14-72-306(a), concerning publication of the sale of bonds for county courthouses and jails, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Bonds that may be issued to pay for courthouses or jails, or both, which may be built or extended, shall be sold only at public auction or on sealed bids after notice given by order of the county court and published ~~once a week~~ not less than seven (7) days before the date of sale and for at least three (3) insertions in some newspaper published and having a bona fide circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, the last insertion or publication on the website to be not less than seven (7) days before the date of sale.

SECTION 71. Arkansas Code § 14-72-503(b)(2), concerning methods of issuance of refunding bonds issued under Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 13, is amended to read as follows:

(2) No refunding bonds shall be sold except at public sale after twenty (20) days' advertisement in some newspaper of bona fide circulation in the city issuing them or publication on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 72. Arkansas Code § 14-72-606(b)(2), concerning election procedures and election contests related to local government revenue bond elections, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Notice of the election shall be given by the clerk of the county or municipality by one (1) publication in a newspaper having general circulation within the county or municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 not less than ten (10) days ~~prior to~~ before the election.

SECTION 73. Arkansas Code § 14-72-606(c)(1), concerning election procedures and election contests related to local government revenue bond elections, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) The county judge or mayor of the county or municipality shall proclaim the results of the election by issuing a proclamation and publishing the proclamation one (1) time in a newspaper having general circulation within the county or municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 74. Arkansas Code § 14-72-608 is amended to read as follows:
14-72-608. Elections held ~~prior to~~ before effective date.

Any election called for the purpose of authorizing revenue bonds and any ordinances or resolutions of a legislative body, or orders of a county court adopted in connection therewith ~~prior to~~ before May 8, 1986, shall be deemed ratified and in full compliance with this subchapter if the ordinance, order, or resolution calling the election or notice of election was published at least one (1) time in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality or county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, and all other procedures followed complied substantially with the provisions of this subchapter.

SECTION 75. Arkansas Code § 14-88-207(b)-(d), concerning the hearing and establishment of a municipal improvement district, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The ordinance shall be published within thirty (30) days after its adoption for one (1) insertion, in some newspaper published in the city or town where the district lies, or if there is no such newspaper, then in some newspaper published in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(2)(A) Where improvement districts are organized in any city or town in which ~~no~~ a newspaper is not regularly published, all notices required may be published in any newspaper that is published and has a bona fide circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(B) If there is no newspaper published in the county where the city or town lies, the ordinances and notices provided for in the cases of local improvement districts in cities and towns may be published by posting them in at least ten (10) conspicuous places in the city or town where the improvement is to be made or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(c) The findings of the governing body shall be conclusive unless attacked by a suit in the chancery circuit court of the county, brought within thirty (30) days after the publication.

(d)(1) The governing body and the chancery circuit court in their finding shall be governed by the record of deeds in the office of the recorder of the county and shall not consider any unrecorded instrument.

(2) ~~They~~ The governing body and the circuit court shall also be governed by the value placed upon the property as shown by the last county assessment on file in the county clerk's office.

SECTION 76. Arkansas Code § 14-88-503(a)(2), concerning annexation of territory into a municipal improvement district, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Thereupon, the city or town council shall direct the clerk or recorder to publish for two (2) weeks, in some newspaper issued and having a general circulation in the county where the city or town is situated or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, a notice calling upon the property owners to appear before the city or town council on a day named and show cause for or against the annexation.

SECTION 77. Arkansas Code § 14-89-403(2), concerning methods of raising revenue for municipal improvement districts, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) A district issuing refunding bonds may provide by resolution of the board of commissioners duly adopted that the entire balance unpaid on the date of the refunding bonds, for the assessment of benefits against each lot, block, and parcel of land and railroad track and right-of-way shall be the assessment of benefits against each respective lot, block, and parcel of land and railroad track and right-of-way for the refunding issue of bonds and shall draw interest, as provided in the resolution of the board of commissioners authorizing the issuance of the refunding bonds, from the date of the refunding bonds until paid.

(B) However, the interest need not be collected until it is necessary to do so to avoid exceeding the total amount of benefits and, if collected, shall be collected on each installment, or annual levy separately.

(C) After the date of the refunding bonds, the annual levies of the assessment of benefits shall be collected on the respective assessments of benefits as thus fixed against each lot, block, and parcel of land and railroad track and right-of-way, with or without an interest charge thereon, as the board of commissioners may deem necessary.

(D) However, when ~~such a~~ the resolution under subdivision (2) is adopted by the board, ~~it~~ the resolution shall be certified by the secretary of the district, and ~~it~~ the resolution shall be filed with the city clerk or town recorder who shall publish in some newspaper published in the city or town, if there be one, and if not then in some newspaper published in the county and having a bona fide circulation in the city or town, or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, a notice which shall be in the following form:

“NOTICE TO OWNERS OF PROPERTY IN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. OF, ARKANSAS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commissioner(s) of Improvement District No.of, Arkansas, have filed with the undersigned a resolution fixing the assessment of benefits on each lot, block and parcel of land and railroad track and right-of-way in said improvement district, and the same is now subject to inspection. Any property owner in said district may appeal to the City (or Town) Council within ten (10) days from this date.

GIVEN this day of, ~~19~~ 20

.....City Clerk (or Town Recorder)
of

(E) Within ten (10) days after the publication of the notice, the district or any property owner may apply to the city or town council to revise the assessment ~~so~~ made under subdivision (2) of this section, and the district or the property owner may within thirty (30) days apply to the ~~chancery~~ circuit court of the county to have the assessment revised and corrected.

(F) If no application is made to the city or town council within ten (10) days or to the circuit court within thirty (30) days, the assessment shall become final and incontestable, subject only to annual revision as provided by law.

(G) On appeal to the city or town council, a hearing can be had as prescribed in § 14-90-501.

(H) When the assessment is filed, the city clerk or town recorder shall make the corrections upon the original assessment roll on file in red ink, and shall certify said assessment to the collector of the district.

SECTION 78. Arkansas Code § 14-90-402 is amended to read as follows:
14-90-402. Notice of filing.

Immediately on the filing of an assessment by the assessors of a municipal improvement district, the city clerk shall insert in some newspaper or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 the following notice:

“The assessment of local Improvement District No. (giving the number of the district) was filed in my office on the day of, ~~19~~ 20....., and the same is now subject to inspection.

.....

Clerk of the City of”

SECTION 79. Arkansas Code § 14-90-602(b)(2)(A), concerning a notice of revision of assessments for municipal improvement districts, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) On the filing of a reassessment with the city clerk or town clerk, the city clerk or town clerk shall publish in a newspaper published in the county one (1) time a week or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 for two (2) weeks a notice as follows:

“The reassessment of Improvement District No _____ (giving the style and number of the district) has been filed in my office, and the same is now open for inspection.

“All persons wishing to be heard on the reassessment shall be heard by the commissioners of the district in the office of the city clerk or town clerk at _____ on the _____ day of _____, 2 _____.

Clerk of the City (or Town) of _____ ”.

SECTION 80. Arkansas Code § 14-90-803 is amended to read as follows:
14-90-803. Publication of ordinance.

Within thirty (30) days after the passage of the ordinance mentioned in § 14-90-801, the recorder or city clerk shall publish a copy of it in some newspaper published and having a bona fide circulation in the town or city for one (1) time; or if no newspaper is published in the city or town, then in some newspaper published in the county; and, if no newspaper is published in the county, then by posting in at least ten (10) conspicuous places in the city or town or by publishing on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 81. Arkansas Code § 14-90-903 is amended to read as follows:
14-90-903. Notice for collection of assessment.

The county tax collector shall, immediately upon the receipt of the certified copies of the municipal improvement district assessment of benefits and ordinance, cause to be published in some newspaper published in the city or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 a notice, which may be in the following form:

“Special Assessment

“The tax book for the collection of the first annual special assessment upon the real property in District No. for the purpose of has been placed in my hands. All owners of real property lying in the District are required to pay their assessment to me within thirty (30) days from this date. If such payment is not made, action shall be commenced at the end of that time for the collection of said assessments and for legal penalties and costs.

“Given under my hand this day of ..., 19 20

.....
County Collector”

SECTION 82. Arkansas Code § 14-91-1002(b)(2)(A), concerning proceedings to approve the sale of waterworks, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) Upon the filing of this petition, the council of the city or town shall give notice by publication once a week for two (2) weeks in some newspaper published in the county in which the city or town is located or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, advising the owners of real property within the city or town that on a day therein named the council of the city or town will hear the petition and determine whether those signing it constitute a majority in value of the owners of real property.

SECTION 83. Arkansas Code § 14-92-206(a)(2)(A), concerning a hearing on a petition to form a suburban improvement district and determination, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) The notice shall be published one (1) time a week for two (2) weeks in some newspaper published and having a bona fide circulation in the county where the lands affected are situated, or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, and, if available, on the website of the county or of the Secretary of State.

SECTION 84. Arkansas Code § 14-93-108(a), concerning the removal of board members of property owners' improvement districts, is amended to read as follows:

(a) When the owners of two-thirds (2/3) in assessed value of the real property located within any district shall sign a petition stating that the petitioners believe it to be in the best interest of the district that the board of commissioners, or any member thereof, be removed and shall file ~~the~~ the petition with the county court of the county in which the district is located, the court shall set a date for a hearing thereon and shall give notice thereof by one (1) publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the district or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 at least ten (10) days before the date of the hearing .

SECTION 85. Arkansas Code § 14-93-133(b)(3), concerning annexation the of lands outside property owners' improvement districts, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The county court shall then direct the clerk to publish for two (2) consecutive weeks, in some newspaper having general circulation in each county in which the district and the territory proposed to be annexed is located or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, a notice calling upon the owners in the district and the territory proposed to be annexed to appear before the county court on the date and time and at the place named in the notice and show cause for or against the annexation.

SECTION 86. Arkansas Code § 14-94-106(c), concerning a hearing on a petition and determination related to municipal property owners and improvement districts, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The ordinance establishing the district shall be published within thirty (30) days after its adoption by one (1) insertion in some newspaper of general circulation in the municipality in which the district lies or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 87. Arkansas Code § 14-94-108(a), concerning the removal of board members of a municipal property owners' improvement district, is amended to read as follows:

(a) When the owners of two-thirds (2/3) in assessed value of the real property located within any district ~~shall~~ sign a petition stating that the petitioners believe it to be in the best interest of the district that the board of commissioners, or any member thereof, be removed and ~~shall~~ file the petition with the governing body, the governing body shall set a date for a hearing on the petition and shall give notice of the hearing by one (1) publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the district or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 at least ten (10) days before the date of the hearing .

SECTION 88. Arkansas Code § 14-117-420(b)(2)(A), concerning notice of a petition, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) Upon the filing of the petition with the county court, notice shall be published by the county clerk for two (2) weeks in a newspaper published in each of the counties in which the district has land or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 89. Arkansas Code § 14-120-112(b)(2), concerning drainage and levee improvement districts created or organized under special or general law, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Thereupon the county court shall give notice of the application by two (2) weeks' publication in some newspaper published and having a bona fide circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 and of a time when the petition will be heard.

SECTION 90. Arkansas Code § 14-121-202(a), concerning notice of a hearing about the establishment of a new district, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The county clerk shall thereupon give notice by publication for two (2) weeks in some newspaper published and having a general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 calling upon all persons owning property within the district to appear before the court on some day to be fixed by the court, to show cause in favor of or against the establishment of the district.

SECTION 91. Arkansas Code § 14-121-207(1), concerning notice of an application to establish new drainage districts, is amended to read as follows:

(1) If three (3) owners of real property within the district ~~shall~~ petition the county court to constitute them a drainage district under the terms hereof, the county court shall give notice of the application by two (2) weeks' publication in some newspaper published and having a bona fide circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, and of a time when the petition will be heard.

SECTION 92. Arkansas Code § 14-121-403(b), concerning notice of an assessment of land outside of the district, is amended to read as follows:

(b) It shall then be the duty of the county court to give notice in a newspaper published in the county where the lands lie or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 describing the additional lands which have been assessed.

SECTION 93. Arkansas Code § 14-121-404(b), concerning notice of the filing of an assessment and for receiving complaints, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Upon the filing of the assessment, the county clerk shall give notice of the fact by publication for two (2) weeks in some newspaper issued in each of the counties in which the lands of the district may lie or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 94. Arkansas Code § 14-121-412(b)(2)(A), concerning notice of additional levies and the process of appeal, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) Upon the filing of the petition, notice shall be published by the clerk for two (2) weeks in a newspaper published in each of the counties in which the district embraces land or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 95. Arkansas Code § 14-121-502(b)(1), concerning notice of any new subdistricts and publication calling upon persons owning property to appear before the court, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The county clerk shall thereupon give notice by publication for two (2) weeks in some newspaper published in the county or counties in which the subdistrict will be located or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, calling upon all persons owning property in the subdistrict to appear before the court on some day fixed by the court to show cause in favor of or against the establishment of the subdistrict.

SECTION 96. Arkansas Code § 14-121-1003(a), concerning notice of a hearing concerning changes to a district, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) Upon the filing of the petition the court shall direct the clerk of the court to give notice by publication in some newspaper in the county in which the property in the district lies or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, for not less than two (2) ~~consecutive weekly publications~~ weeks, which notice shall set out the purpose of the petition and the day set for the hearing thereon.

(2) The court shall fix a day for the hearing of the petition and shall hear the evidence thereon, and if ~~it~~ the court is of the opinion that it is for the best interests of the property owners of the district that the petition be granted, ~~it~~ the court shall abolish or dissolve the district, but if ~~it~~ the court is of the opinion that it is for the best interest of the property owners that the organization of the district be continued, then ~~it~~ the court shall overrule the petition.

SECTION 97. Arkansas Code § 14-121-1009(b)(1), concerning notice of abolishing a district when construction of improvement is abandoned and all indebtedness is paid, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) Upon the filing of the petition, the court shall direct the clerk to give notice by publication in some newspaper in the county or

counties in which the property in the district lies or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, for not less than two (2) ~~consecutive weekly publications~~ weeks.

SECTION 98. Arkansas Code § 14-121-1010(b)(1), concerning notice of abolishing districts when improvements are abandoned and no maintenance assurances are given, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) Upon the filing of the petition, the court shall direct the clerk to give notice by publication in some newspaper in the county or counties in which the property in the district lies or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 for not less than two (2) ~~consecutive weekly publications~~ weeks.

SECTION 99. Arkansas Code § 14-122-103 is amended to read as follows:
14-122-103. Publication of notice of adoption of ordinance.

When the governing body of any city enacts an ordinance ~~pursuant to~~ under the authority granted herein, creating a drainage improvement district encompassing all or any part of the territory within the limits of the city, the governing body shall cause a notice of the adoption of the ordinance and a complete copy of the ordinance enacted to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the district or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 within seven (7) days after the enactment thereof.

SECTION 100. Arkansas Code § 14-139-106(a), concerning a notice and hearing regarding revenue bonds for municipal exhibition grounds and buildings, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) After the ordinance ~~shall have been~~ is adopted, it shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper published in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126; ~~or if~~

(2) If there is no newspaper ~~so~~ published and the municipality does not publish on a website, then the ordinance shall be posted in at least three (3) public places therein, with a notice to all persons concerned stating that:

~~(1)~~(A) The ordinance has been adopted;

(2)(B) The municipality contemplates the issuance of the bonds described in this ordinance; and

(3)(C) Any person interested may appear before the governing body, upon a certain date which shall not be less than ten (10) days subsequent to the publication or posting of the ordinance and notice, and present protests.

SECTION 101. Arkansas Code § 14-140-209(3)(A), concerning public marketplaces in cities and towns, is amended to read as follows:

~~(A)~~(3) Notice and Hearing.

(A) After the ordinance ~~shall have been~~ is adopted, it shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper published in the city or town or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 with a notice to all persons concerned, stating that:

(i) The ordinance has been adopted;

(ii) The city or town contemplates the issuance of the bonds described in the ordinance; and

(iii) Any person interested may appear before the governing body upon a certain date, which shall not be less than ten (10) days subsequent to the publication of the ordinance and notice, and present protest.

SECTION 102. Arkansas Code § 14-142-208(b)(3), concerning notice of an election for the issuance of bonds for a local government library, is amended to read as follows:

(3)(A) Notice of the election shall be given by the clerk of the issuer by one (1) publication in a newspaper having general circulation within the municipality or county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 not less than ten (10) days ~~prior to~~ before the election.

(B) No other publication or posting of a notice by any other public official shall be required.

SECTION 103. Arkansas Code § 14-163-212 is amended to read as follows:
14-163-212. Bonds – Sale.

(a) Bonds issued under this subchapter shall be sold at public sale after twenty-days' advertisement in a newspaper having a bona fide circulation in the city or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(b) ~~They~~ The bonds may be sold for such price, including, without limitation, sale at a discount, as the governing body of the city shall determine.

SECTION 104. Arkansas Code § 14-164-309(d), concerning industrial development bonds, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) Notice of the election shall be given by the clerk of the issuer by one (1) publication in a newspaper having general circulation within the municipality or county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 not less than ten (10) days ~~prior to~~ before the election.

(2) No other publication or posting of a notice by any other public official shall be required.

SECTION 105. Arkansas Code § 14-164-328(b)(2), concerning the publication of the results of an election with reference to capital improvement bonds, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The proclamation shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality or county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 106. Arkansas Code § 14-168-305(b)(2)(A), concerning notice of a hearing regarding a proposed redevelopment district, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) Notice of the hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 at least fifteen (15) days ~~prior to~~ before the hearing.

SECTION 107. Arkansas Code § 14-168-306(e)(2)(A), concerning project plans for redevelopment districts, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) Notice of the hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 for at least fifteen (15) days ~~prior to~~ before the hearing.

SECTION 108. Arkansas Code § 14-168-307(b)(2)(A), concerning amended plans for redevelopment districts, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) Notice of the hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 for at least fifteen (15) days ~~prior to~~ before the hearing.

SECTION 109. Arkansas Code § 14-169-104(b)(2)(A), concerning the exercise of power by a housing authority, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A)(i) The clerk of the city or other municipality shall give notice of the time, place, and purpose of the public hearing at least ten (10) days ~~prior to~~ before the date on which the hearing is to be held, in a newspaper published in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(ii) If there is no newspaper published in the municipality and notice is not given by publication on a website, then notice shall be published in a newspaper published in the state and having a general circulation in the municipality.

SECTION 110. Arkansas Code § 14-169-319(a)(2), concerning procedures for regional housing authorities, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The clerk of the county shall give notice of the time, place, and purpose of the public hearing for at least ten (10) days ~~prior to~~ before the day on which the hearing is to be held, in a newspaper published in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, or if there is no newspaper published in the county and publication is not made on a website, then in a newspaper published in the state and having a general circulation in the county.

SECTION 111. Arkansas Code § 14-169-1107(b)(2)(B)(ii), concerning foreclosure in a targeted neighborhood enhancement plan, is amended to read as follows:

(ii) If the name and whereabouts of the owner cannot be determined, or if restricted delivery of certified mail is not accomplished, then the hearing to determine the amount shall be held not fewer than fourteen (14) days after publication of notice of the hearing in a newspaper having a bona fide circulation in the county where the property is located for one (1) insertion per week or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 for four (4) consecutive weeks; and

SECTION 112. Arkansas Code § 14-186-410(a), concerning the joint operation of ports by municipalities and counties, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) After the passage of any ordinance ~~pursuant to~~ under § 14-186-409, it shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper published in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(2) If there is no newspaper so published, or the ordinance is not published on a website, then the ordinance shall be published in a newspaper which has a bona fide general circulation within the municipality, with a notice to all persons concerned stating that:

~~(1)~~(A) The ordinance has been passed;

~~(2)~~(B) The municipality contemplated the issuance of the bonds described in the ordinance; and

~~(3)~~(C) Any person interested may appear before the legislative body, upon a certain date, which shall be not less than ten (10) days subsequent to the publication of the ordinance and notice, and present protests.

SECTION 113. Arkansas Code § 14-187-106(c), concerning procedure for the sale of improvements by municipal wharf improvement districts, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) Upon the filing of the petition or petitions, the council shall give notice by publication one (1) time a week for two (2) weeks in some newspaper published in the county in which the district is situated or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(2) This publication shall advise the owners of real property within the district that on a day therein named the council of the city will hear the petition and determine whether those signing it constitute a majority in value of the owners of real property.

SECTION 114. Arkansas Code § 14-188-104(b)(1)(B)(ii), concerning the creation of rural development authorities, is amended to read as follows:

(ii) ~~Prior to~~ Before any hearing held to determine if there is need for an authority to function in the county, the clerk shall cause notice of the hearing to be published for at least two (2) successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, setting forth the time and place of the hearing.

SECTION 115. Arkansas Code § 14-199-302(b)(2), concerning the sale of public utilities, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Upon the filing of this petition, the council of the city or town shall give notice by publication once a week for two (2) weeks in a newspaper published in the county in which the city or town may lie or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, advising the owners of real property within the city or town that on a day therein named the council of the city or town will hear the petition and determine whether those signing it constitute a majority in value of the owners of real property.

SECTION 116. Arkansas Code § 14-199-404 is amended to read as follows: 14-199-404. Report and audit of operation.

(a) The city council of any city adopting the ordinance provided for in this subchapter shall require the consolidated governing body designated as the light and water commission to make a complete and competent audit by an auditor approved by the city council each biennium, from and after the effective date of the ordinance.

(b) The city council shall require the light and water commission to file with the city council a complete report and audit of the operation of both the light plant and water plant.

(c) This audit shall be publicized in a legal newspaper having a general circulation in the county wherein the city is located or published on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 117. Arkansas Code § 14-201-304 is amended to read as follows: 14-201-304. Notice of election.

(a) Within five (5) days after the filing of the petition, the county board of election commissioners shall call an election to be held in the city or town at a time not less than thirty (30) days nor more than sixty (60) days from the date of the filing of the petition.

(b) The board shall give due notice ~~thereof~~ of the election by publication in some newspaper published in the city or town, weekly or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 for two (2) weeks, stating in the notice the time and place where the election will be held and the purpose ~~thereof~~ of the election; and the election may be held at any place in the city or town designated by the board whether the place be within or without the boundaries of the improvement district or districts.

(c) If no newspaper is published in the city or town, and notice of the election is not published on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, notice of the election shall be given by printed notices posted at ten (10) public places therein for more than twenty (20) days ~~prior to~~ before the election.

SECTION 118. Arkansas Code § 14-203-115(b), concerning rates, fees, and charges for a municipal electrical system, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) For so long as any contract for the purchase of electric power and energy is in effect, the rates, fees, and charges for electric power and energy charged and collected by a municipality may be fixed to provide sufficient revenues to secure payments of amounts due under the contract and to comply with the terms of the contract.

(2) Any contract shall be approved by ordinance of the governing body of the purchasing municipality, and the ordinance shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(3) Any contest of the ordinance shall be barred at the end of thirty (30) days after the ordinance is published.

SECTION 119. Arkansas Code § 14-205-104 is amended to read as follows: 14-205-104. Publication of ordinance and notice.

When the ordinance is adopted by the municipality's legislative body, it shall be published one (1) time:

(1) ~~in~~ In a newspaper published in the municipality, or, if there is no newspaper so published, then in a newspaper which has a bona fide general circulation within the municipality with a notice to all persons concerned stating that the ordinance has been adopted, that the municipality contemplated the issuance of the bonds described in the ordinance, and that any person interested may appear before the legislative body, upon a certain

date which shall not be less than ten (10) days subsequent to the publication of the ordinance and notice, and present protests; or

(2) On a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, including a notice to all persons concerned stating that the ordinance has been adopted, that the municipality contemplated the issuance of the bonds described in the ordinance, and that any person interested may appear before the legislative body, upon a certain date which shall not be less than ten (10) days subsequent to the publication of the ordinance and notice, and present protests.

SECTION 120. Arkansas Code § 14-206-103(a), concerning natural gas distribution systems, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) Any municipality may determine to seek approval from the ~~commission~~ Arkansas Public Service Commission to acquire the property of a gas or electric public utility as authorized under the provisions of this chapter by the vote of the municipal council, city commission, or governing body taken after a public hearing, of which at least thirty (30) days' notice has been given by publication in newspapers having a general circulation within the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(2) This vote shall have been ratified and confirmed by a majority of the electors voting thereon at any special election held in accordance with § 7-11-201 et seq.

SECTION 121. Arkansas Code § 14-206-105(b)(1), concerning a natural gas distribution system, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) Each application shall also be accompanied by proof that public notice thereof was given to persons residing in the municipality by the publication of a summary of the application, and a statement of the date on which it is to be filed, and a statement that interventions or limited appearances must be filed with the commission within thirty (30) days after the filing date set forth in the notice, unless good cause is shown, in a newspaper or newspapers having substantial circulation in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 122. Arkansas Code § 14-217-105(d), concerning the creation of consolidated utility districts, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) The petition shall be filed with the city clerk.

(2) Upon the filing of the petition it shall be the duty of the city clerk to give notice that the petition will be heard at a meeting of the governing body of the municipality at the time set forth in the notice.

(3) The notice shall be published ~~once a week for not less than~~ for at least two (2) weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(4) The notice may be in the following form:

"All owners of real property within the following described territory (description of territory to be included in the district) are hereby notified that a petition has been filed with the city clerk of the city of (name of municipality) purporting to be signed by at least a two-thirds (2/3) majority in assessed value of the owners of real property within the territory, which petition prays that a

consolidated utility district be formed embracing the territory, for the purpose of (description of consolidated system in general terms) and that the cost thereof be assessed against the real property situated in the territory. All owners of real property within the territory are advised that the petition will be heard at a meeting of the (governing body) to be held at M., on , ~~19~~ 20. , and that at that meeting the (governing body) will determine whether those having signed the petition constitute at least a two-thirds (2/3) majority in assessed value of the owners of real property within the territory. At the meeting, all owners of real property within the territory who so desire will be heard upon the question.”

SECTION 123. Arkansas Code § 14-218-104 is amended to read as follows: 14-218-104. Publication of ordinance establishing district.

(a) Within twenty (20) days after the passage of the ordinance, the clerk of the city shall publish the ordinance of the council laying off and establishing the district.

(b) The ordinance shall be published in a newspaper published in the city or town, for one (1) insertion or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 124. Arkansas Code § 14-218-105(a), concerning the publication of an ordinance establishing a consolidated water and light improvement district, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Before passing the ordinance, the city council shall cause the city clerk to give notice by publication ~~one (1) time a week~~ for two (2) weeks in a newspaper published in the county in which the city may lie or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, advising the property owners within the proposed district that on a day therein named, the council will hear the petition and determine whether those signing the petition are actually owners of real property in such city.

SECTION 125. Arkansas Code § 14-218-106(a), concerning notice of a petition to take over a light and water plant, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) If, within ninety (90) days after the publication of the ordinance creating and establishing the district, persons claiming to be a majority in value of the owners of real property within the district shall present to the city council a petition that the plants and systems be acquired and consolidated, that the improvements be made, that thereafter the plants and systems be maintained, and that the cost thereof be assessed and charged upon the real property situated within the district, the city clerk shall give notice by publication ~~one (1) time a week~~ for two (2) weeks in a newspaper published in the county in which the city lies or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(2) This publication shall advise the property owners within the district that on a day therein named the council will hear the petition and determine whether those signing the petition constitute a majority in value of the owners of real property.

SECTION 126. Arkansas Code § 14-218-111 is amended to read as follows:

14-218-111. Notice of filing of assessments.

Immediately on filing of the assessment, the city clerk shall ~~insert~~ publish the following notice in a newspaper published in the county in which the city lies or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126:

“The assessment of consolidated water and light district of was filed in my office on the ... day of ..., ~~19~~ 20..., and the assessment is now subject to inspection.

.....
Clerk of the City of

SECTION 127. Arkansas Code § 14-218-115(a), concerning the statute of limitations for challenging assessments in a consolidated water and light improvement district, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Within thirty (30) days after the passage of the ordinance mentioned in § 14-218-114, the city clerk shall publish a copy of ~~the~~ the assessment ordinance in a newspaper published in the town or city or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 128. Arkansas Code § 14-218-117 is amended to read as follows:
14-218-117. Collector’s notice – Publication.

The collector shall immediately, upon the receipt of the tax list, cause to be published in a newspaper published in the city or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 a notice, which may be in the following form:

“The tax books for the collection of the special assessment upon the real property in Consolidated Water & Light District of ... has been placed in my hands. All owners of real property lying in the district are required to pay their assessment to me within thirty (30) days from this date. If such payment is not made, action will be commenced at the end of that time for the collection of said assessment and for legal penalties and costs.

Given under my hand this ... day of ..., ~~19~~ 20....
.....Collector.”

SECTION 129. Arkansas code § 14-218-123(b), concerning the annual revision assessments in a water and light improvement district, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The clerk shall insert in a newspaper published in the county in which the city is located or publish on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 the following notice:

“The list showing the annual readjustment of the assessment of the Consolidated Water & Light District ..., was filed in my office on the ... day of ..., ~~19~~ 20...

..... Clerk.”

SECTION 130. Arkansas Code § 14-234-406(b), concerning notice of the intention to lease waterworks and water supply premises for recreational purposes, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Public notice of intention to lease the premises shall be published ~~at least one (1) time and~~ for at least two (2) weeks before the bid date, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the

municipality is situated or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 131. Arkansas Code § 14-234-506(a), concerning publication of ordinance, is amended to read as follows:

(a) After the passage of the ordinance, it shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper published in the municipality, or if there is no newspaper so published, then in a newspaper which has a bona fide general circulation within the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, with a notice to all persons concerned stating that the ordinance has been passed and that the municipality contemplates the issuance of the bonds described in the ordinance and that any person interested may appear before the legislative body, upon a certain date which shall be not less than ten (10) days subsequent to the publication of the ordinance and notice, and present protests.

SECTION 132. Arkansas Code § 14-235-223(d)(1)(B), concerning notice to issue revenue bonds for waterworks and water supply, is amended to read as follows:

(B) After introduction of the ordinance fixing the rates or charges, and before the ordinance is finally enacted, notice of the hearing, setting forth the proposed schedule of the rates or charges, shall be given by one (1) publication in a newspaper published in the municipality if there is such a newspaper, but otherwise in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, at least ten (10) days before the date fixed in the notice for the hearing, which may be adjourned from time to time.

SECTION 133. Arkansas Code § 14-237-113 is amended to read as follows:
14-237-113. Annual publication of financial statements.

(a)~~(1)~~ The governing body of each municipal water or sewer department shall cause to be published annually a financial statement of the department, including receipts and expenditures for the period and a statement of the indebtedness and financial condition of the department.

(b) The financial statement shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper published in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

~~(2)~~(c) The financial statement shall be at least as detailed as the minimum record of accounts as provided in this chapter.

~~(3)~~(d) The financial statement shall be published by April 1 of the following year.

~~(b)~~(e) In municipalities where no newspaper is published and the financial statement is not published on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, the financial statement shall be posted in two (2) public places in the municipality.

SECTION 134. Arkansas Code § 14-284-104(a)(1), concerning publication of notice of a petition to create a fire protection district, is amended to read as follows:

(1) The notice shall be published ~~one (1) time a week~~ for two (2) weeks in some newspaper published and having a bona fide circulation in

the county where the lands affected are situated or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 135. Arkansas Code § 14-284-204(a)(2)(B), concerning the establishment of fire protection districts outside of cities and towns, is amended to read as follows:

(B) When a time and place for the hearing are set, the quorum court shall publish notice of the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 136. Arkansas Code § 14-284-204(c)(1)(A), concerning notice of adoption of an ordinance that establishes a fire protection district outside of cities and towns, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1)(A) When an ordinance is adopted by the quorum court establishing a fire protection district, the quorum court shall publish notice of the adoption of the ordinance in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 137. Arkansas Code § 14-298-120(d)(2), concerning the opening, changing, and classifying of roads by order of a county court, is amended to read as follows:

(2) If service is not obtained then by one (1) insertion for two (2) weeks at least thirty (30) days before the hearing in some newspaper having a general circulation in the county or by publication on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, the county clerk shall publish a notice as to the filing of the petition, naming the day on which the county court will hear the parties and those for and those against the opening of the road.

SECTION 138. Arkansas Code § 14-298-121(d)(2)(B), concerning the opening or altering of county roads, is amended to read as follows:

(B) If service is not obtained, then by one (1) insertion for two (2) weeks in some newspaper published and having a general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, the county clerk shall publish a notice as to the filing of the petition and naming the day on which the county court will hear the parties and those for and against the opening of the road.

SECTION 139. Arkansas Code § 14-301-110(b), concerning publication of notice of straightening or abandoning streets in cities over 15,000 inhabitants by city clerk, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) When any person owning property abutting any part of the property proposed to be abandoned as a street shall present to the city council his petition praying that any property be abandoned as a street, the city council shall by resolution direct the city clerk to give notice by a publication one (1) time a week for two (2) weeks in some newspaper published in the county in which the city may lie or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(2) To advise the property owners affected that on a day named in the notice the council will hear the petition and determine whether the

property should be abandoned as a street and whether all abutting property owners and other persons directly interested have consented to the abandonment.

(3) At the meeting named in the notice, all property owners affected shall be heard before the council, which shall determine whether the property should be abandoned and whether all abutting property owners and other persons directly interested have consented to the abandonment.

(4) The determination and finding of the council shall be conclusive unless within thirty (30) days thereafter suit is brought to review its action in the ~~chancery~~ circuit court of the county where the city lies.

(5) In determining whether all abutting property owners and other persons directly interested have consented to the abandonment, the council and the ~~chancery~~ circuit court shall be guided by the record of deeds in the office of the recorder of the county and shall not consider any unrecorded instrument.

SECTION 140. Arkansas Code § 14-301-203(b), concerning notice of public hearing on a petition to undertake street improvements, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Notice of the public hearing shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 not less than five (5) days ~~prior to~~ before the date fixed for the hearing.

SECTION 141. Arkansas Code § 14-301-204(a) concerning notice of assessed benefits on property in a municipality to improve streets, is amended to read as follows:

(a) At the time and place stated in the notice, the governing body of the municipality shall meet and hear all owners of real property of the designated areas in the municipality who wish to be heard on the question of whether the petitions contain the signatures of a majority in value of the real property owners of the designated areas in the municipality and shall make a finding and ruling as to whether the petitions contain the signatures of a majority in value of the real property owners and shall publish the finding one (1) time in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 142. Arkansas Code § 14-301-302(c), concerning notice to vacate a street or alley, is amended to read as follows:

(c) At the next regular or special meeting of the council, the council shall, by resolution, fix a day for the hearing of the petition and shall direct the city clerk or town recorder to give notice of the meeting by publication once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in some newspaper published in the county and having a general circulation in the city or town or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 143. Arkansas Code § 14-301-402 is amended to read as follows:
14-301-402. Petition of property owners to close alley – Notice.

(a) When any person files with the city clerk or recorder of any city of the first or second class or any incorporated town in this state a

petition signed by ten (10) or more persons claiming to be owners of real property in the city or town and including a majority of the owners of real property abutting upon any alley running through or across any part of any block in the city, with this petition stating that the land embraced in the alley or any part thereof is needed for the purpose of building on the lands any public school, hospital, orphanage, or church building, or any addition to those buildings, and praying that the alley be vacated as a whole or in part and, if not as a whole, describing specifically the part of the alley desired to be vacated, then it shall be the duty of the city clerk or recorder to give notice of the filing of the petition by publication in some newspaper published in the city or town, by one (1) insertion or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(b) If no newspaper is published therein, and publication is not made on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, notice shall be given by publication of the notice, by one (1) insertion, in any newspaper published in the county and shall call upon the owners of real property abutting upon the alley and upon all other persons, firms, and corporations, to appear before the council of the city or town at its next regular meeting to be held after ten (10) days from the date of the notice and show cause, if any they can, why the petition should not be granted and the alley vacated.

SECTION 144. Arkansas Code § 14-317-104(b), concerning notice of a petition to form rural road improvement districts, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The notice shall be published once a week for two (2) weeks in some newspaper published and having a bona fide circulation in the district where the lands affected are situated or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 145. Arkansas Code § 14-318-104(b), concerning notice of a petition by landowners in improvement districts for acquiring rights-of-way, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The notice shall be published once a week for two (2) weeks in some newspaper published and having a bona fide circulation in the county where the lands affected are situated or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(2) The last publication of notice is to be at least seven (7) days before the day fixed for the hearing.

SECTION 146. Arkansas Code § 14-322-104(a), concerning notice of a public hearing about improvement districts for city streets, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Notice of the public hearing shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, at least five (5) days ~~prior to~~ before the date fixed for the hearing.

SECTION 147. Arkansas Code § 14-322-105(a), concerning the establishment of improvement districts for city streets, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) At the time and place stated in the notice, the governing body of the municipality shall meet and hear all owners of real property in the proposed district who wish to be heard on the question of whether the petitions contain the signatures of a majority in value of the real property owners in the district.

(2) It shall make a finding and ruling as to whether the petitions contain the signatures of a majority in value of the real property owners and shall publish the finding one (1) time in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 148. Arkansas Code § 14-322-106(c), concerning notice of filing assessments in improvement districts for city streets, is amended to read as follows:

(c) Notice that the assessed benefits have been filed with the city clerk and county clerk shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 149. Arkansas Code § 14-386-116(a), concerning publication of an order in fencing districts, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Within seven (7) days from the making of the order mentioned in § 14-386-115, the county clerk shall publish a copy of it in some newspaper published in the county one (1) time if a newspaper is published in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126; and if not, then by posting the copy at the courthouse door, and by posting not less than ten (10) copies of it in the district.

SECTION 150. Arkansas Code § 14-386-301(a), concerning notice of addition of an adjacent area to a fencing district, is amended to read as follows:

(a) When any number of owners of either rural acreage or city or town land near or adjacent to any fencing district organized under and pursuant to the law shall present to the county court a petition, in writing, accompanied by a map giving description and setting forth such land as they desire to have enclosed in any such district embraced within the enclosure of the fence of the district, it shall be the duty of the court to give a notice by publication in some newspaper in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 for a period of not less than twenty (20) days of a hearing upon the petition, calling upon all persons whose lands or interest may be affected by the petition to appear and show cause, if any, why the request of the petitioner should not be granted.

SECTION 151. Arkansas Code § 14-386-402 is amended to read as follows: 14-386-402. Petition to establish district.

When any number of landowners owning land adjacent to any fencing district organized under and pursuant to the law shall present to the county court a petition, in writing, accompanied by a map, giving a description and setting forth what land they desire to have enclosed in such district, and where the lands as set forth and described in the petition are bounded or completely enclosed by existing fencing districts, no-fence districts,

counties where a stock law is in effect, or navigable rivers, or combination of them, it shall be the duty of the court to give notice, by publication in some newspaper published in the county where the lands lie or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, of the filing of the petition and a description of all lands as set forth and contained in the description.

SECTION 152. Arkansas Code § 14-386-405(a), concerning notice of election results regarding fencing districts, is amended to read as follows:

(a) After the county board of election commissioners have ascertained and declared the results of any election held under the provisions of this subchapter, it shall be the duty of the county court to cause the results to be published ~~to be printed~~ in some newspaper published in the county where the lands lie or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 153. Arkansas Code § 14-387-204(b), concerning notice of filing a petition for the creation of stock law districts, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The notice shall be published in some newspaper published in the county, if there is one, or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(2)(A) If no newspaper is published in the county, or if the notice is not published on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, the notice shall be posted at the courthouse door and at each voting precinct in the county, if the petition is for a county.

(B) If the petition is for a subdivision, then the notice shall be posted at three (3) of the most public places in the subdivision.

SECTION 154. Arkansas Code § 14-387-303(3)(A), concerning notice of result of election in the establishment of stock law districts, is amended to read as follows:

(3)(A) Immediately give notice of the result by publication in some newspaper published in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 and by causing notices to be posted in three (3) public places in each township affected by the election.

SECTION 155. Arkansas Code § 14-387-401(b)(2)(B)(i), concerning notice of order of the authority and procedure in the addition of townships to a stock law district, is amended to read as follows:

(B)(i) Notice of the order shall be given by publication of it in some newspaper published in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 156. Arkansas Code § 17-50-406(1), concerning notice of the sale of forfeited property of water well constructors, is amended to read as follows:

(1) Publish at least two (2) times a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in a newspaper having general circulation in the county notice of the sale, including the time, place, conditions of the sale, and a description of the property to be sold, or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126;

SECTION 157. Arkansas code § 18-15-303(a)(2), concerning notice of the time and place of an application to a circuit court for eminent domain, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Notice of the time and place of the application shall be given either personally in the ordinary manner of serving process or by publishing a copy of the application with a statement of the time and place at which it is to be made. Notice shall be published for three (3) weeks preceding the time of the application in some newspaper of general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 158. Arkansas Code § 18-15-408(a)(4)(A), concerning notice of intent to condemn a cemetery or grave, is amended to read as follows:

(A) The notice shall be published ~~one (1) time a week~~ for four (4) consecutive weeks in some newspaper having a general circulation throughout the state in order to give the widest publicity to the municipality's intention or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126;

SECTION 159. Arkansas Code § 18-15-1004(c)(2), concerning publication of warning orders for levee drainage districts, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) However, if the owner is a nonresident of the county or is unknown to the officers of the levee or drainage district, it shall be the duty of the clerk to publish a warning order in some newspaper published in the county for four (4) insertions or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(B) The warning order may be in the following form and shall be dated and signed by the clerk:

"To (name of supposed owner) and all other persons having any claim or interest in and to the following described land, situated in ... County, Arkansas, namely: ... (here describe the land over which the levee or drainage passes according to U.S. Surveys). You are hereby warned to appear in this court within thirty (30) days, and file exceptions to the award which has been filed in this office by the levee and drainage appraisers of this county for the appropriation of the portion of the hereinbefore described land, for the construction or intended construction of a levee, ditch, canal, or drain, as the case may be, over and across the same."

SECTION 160. Arkansas Code § 18-28-403(a)(2)(B), concerning publication of a petition to remit abandoned mineral proceeds to the county, is amended to read as follows:

(B) The county attorney shall publish notice of his or her petition in a legal newspaper having general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, and the notice shall be published at least one (1) time.

SECTION 161. Arkansas Code § 18-60-902(a), concerning notice of a petition to vacate public utility easements, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Upon receipt of the petition, the county clerk shall promptly give notice by publication at least one (1) time a week for at least two (2)

consecutive weeks in some newspaper having a general circulation within the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 162. Arkansas Code § 19-9-607(b), concerning notice of a hearing for the Revenue Bond Act of 1987, is amended to read as follows:

(b) At least ten (10) days before the date set for the public hearing, notice of the hearing shall be published:

(1) one One (1) time in a newspaper of general circulation:

~~(1)(A)~~ In the locality to be affected; or

~~(2)(B)~~ In the case of a regional water distribution district, regional wastewater district, or regional solid waste management district, in a newspaper of general circulation in each county in which land lies within the boundaries of the district; or

(2) On a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 163. Arkansas Code § 20-13-303(b)(1), concerning notice of public hearing for county programs, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) When a quorum court proposes to enact an ordinance to provide emergency medical services, whether on its own motion or upon petition of electors, it shall set a date for a public hearing on the question and shall ~~cause publish~~ publish notice of the time and place of the hearing ~~to be published~~ in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or in the area proposed to be served or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 164. Arkansas Code § 20-13-304(a), concerning publication of an ordinance for a referendum of county programs, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Within ten (10) days after the enactment of the ordinance, a copy of the ordinance in its entirety shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or in the designated area or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 165. Arkansas Code § 22-6-303(a), concerning publication of notice of a sale of school lands, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The sheriff shall give notice by publication in some newspaper published in the county where the land is situated or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, at least four (4) weeks before the day of sale, that he or she will sell the land or lots at the courthouse door.

SECTION 166. Arkansas Code § 23-110-402(c)(4), concerning notice of an election regarding the number of horse-racing days, is amended to read as follows:

(4)(A) Notice of the election shall be given by the clerk of the city, town, or county involved by one (1) publication in a newspaper having general circulation within the city, town, or county involved or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 not less than ten (10) days ~~prior to~~ before the election.

(B) No other publication or posting of a notice by any other public official shall be required.

SECTION 167. Arkansas Code § 23-113-201(a)(2)(D), concerning notice of an election on the question of the wagering on electronic games of skill, is amended to read as follows:

(D)(1) Notice of the election shall be given by the clerk of the city, town, or county involved, by one (1) publication in a newspaper having general circulation within the city, town, or county involved or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 not less than ten (10) calendar days before the election. No other publication or posting of a notice by any other public official shall be required.

SECTION 168. Arkansas Code § 23-113-201(a)(2)(F)(i), concerning limitations on wagering on electronic games of skill, is amended to read as follows:

(F)(i) Within thirty (30) calendar days after completion of the tabulation of the votes, the mayor of the city or town or the county judge of the county, as the case may be, shall proclaim the results of the election by issuing a proclamation and publishing it one (1) time in a newspaper having general circulation within the city, town, or county involved or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 169. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 1, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

25-1-126. Publication on a website.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Commercially reasonable rate" means the rate that is charged to a commercial customer for the publication of an advertisement, notice, or other publication; and

(2) "Website" means a site on the internet that:

(1) Is identifiable by a specific website address;

(2) Is accessible to the public at no cost; and

(3) Requires no information or login from the user.

(b) The website used to publish all advertisements, notices, orders, and information required or authorized to be published on a website under this section shall:

(1) Be an independent third-party website;

(2)(A) Be selected by the Legislative Council and subject to audit by Arkansas Legislative Audit.

(B) The Legislative Council shall issue a request for proposals to host the independent third-party website;

(3) Contain all information that the advertisement, notice, order, or published information would contain if published in a newspaper;

(4) Publish the advertisement, notice, order of publication, or other information in a format substantially similar as other similar advertisements, notices, orders, and information published in a newspaper;

(5) Maintain the advertisement, notice, order of publication, or other information on the website for at least three (3) years from the date on which it is posted on the website;

(6) Generate a proof of publication to the official submitting the advertisement, notice, order of publication, or other information; and

(7) Charge a commercially reasonable rate for the publication of the advertisement, notice, order of publication, or other information.

(c) The operator of the third-party website shall consent to being audited by Arkansas Legislative Audit for compliance with all publication requirements.

(d) If the independent third-party website initially selected by the Legislative Council under subsection (b) of this section determines it shall no longer offer an independent third-party website for the publication of advertisements, notices, orders, and other information, the Legislative Council shall select another independent third-party website for the publication of advertisements, notices, orders, or other information required by this section.

(e) If Arkansas Legislative Audit determines the advertisements, notices, orders, and other information are not in compliance with this section or the requirements for publication are not met by the independent third-party website or the independent third-party, the Legislative Council shall select another independent third party website for the publication of advertisements, notices, orders, and information required by this section.

(f) When required to publish on a website under this section:

(1) A quorum court may require that a notice be published in a newspaper in addition to the website under this section; and

(2) A municipality may require that a notice be published in a newspaper in addition to the website under this section.

(g) An ordinance shall not be deemed invalid because of the failure to remain continuously posted on a website under this section for three (3) years.

SECTION 170. Arkansas Code § 26-26-1301(b), concerning order upon complaint during reassessment of property, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Due notice of the time and place fixed for a hearing upon any complaint made as indicated shall be mailed, at least fifteen (15) days before the time fixed for the hearing, to the county judge and county assessor of the county affected, and the county judge shall immediately ~~cause the notice to be published~~ publish the notice, at the expense of the county, in a newspaper having a general circulation in the county and district or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 171. Arkansas Code § 26-26-1307(a)(3), concerning notice of reappraisal during reassessment of property, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The notice required by this section may be accomplished by publication in newspapers, by radio, by television, by direct mail, on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, or by any other reasonable means.

SECTION 172. Arkansas Code § 26-27-203(6), concerning rules for valuation during an equalization of assets, is amended to read as follows:

(6)(A) Before any percentage shall be added to or deducted from the total assessed valuation of any county, township, district, city, or town in this state by the board, it shall cause a notice to be served upon the county judge of the county, who shall cause notice to be published in some newspaper having a general circulation in the county or publish the notice on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, at least ten (10) days before the date of the proposed change.

(B) The notice shall give the date and place at which the board will sit and shall warn the county judge and all citizens of the county to appear at the time and place and show cause, if any they can, why the proposed change should not be made or the assessments increased or reduced.

SECTION 173. Arkansas Code § 26-27-318(f)(1)(A), concerning notice of appeals to courts, is amended to read as follows:

(f)(1)(A) The county court shall acquire no jurisdiction to hear the appeal unless the county clerk shall have first given notice of the appeal by publication:

(i) By one (1) insertion published not less than one (1) week before the date fixed for the hearing of the appeal in a daily or weekly newspaper published and having a bona fide general circulation in the county;
~~or~~

(ii) In any county in which no daily or weekly newspaper is published, by posting a notice at the courthouse and in four (4) other conspicuous places in the county seat of the county for a period of not less than one (1) week before the date fixed for the hearing of the appeal; or

(iii) On a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 174. Arkansas Code § 26-74-204(g), concerning notice of the issuance of bonds, is amended to read as follows:

(g)(1) Bonds issued under the authority of this subchapter may be sold at public or private sale.

(2) If sold at public sale, the bonds shall be sold on sealed bids, and notice of the sale shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper having a general circulation throughout the State of Arkansas or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, at least ten (10) days ~~prior to~~ before the date of the sale.

(3) In either case, the bonds may be sold at such price as the county may accept, including sale at a discount.

SECTION 175. Arkansas Code § 26-74-309(b), concerning notice of results of an election for county sales and use taxes, is amended to read as follows:

(b) When the election results have been certified, the county court shall immediately issue a proclamation declaring the results of the election and cause the proclamation to be published one (1) time in a newspaper having general circulation within the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 176. Arkansas Code § 26-74-404(b), concerning notice of results of an election for county sales and use taxes, is amended to read as follows:

(b) When the election results have been certified, the county court shall immediately issue a proclamation declaring the results of the election and cause the proclamation to be published one (1) time in a newspaper having general circulation within the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 177. Arkansas Code § 26-74-605(b)(1), concerning notice of results of an election for county sales and use taxes, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) Notice of the election shall be given by the county clerk by one (1) publication in a newspaper having a general circulation within the eligible county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 not less than ten (10) days ~~prior to~~ before the election.

SECTION 178. Arkansas Code § 26-75-204(g), concerning notice of the issuance of bonds, is amended to read as follows:

(g)(1) Bonds issued under the authority of this subchapter may be sold at public or private sale.

(2) If sold at public sale, the bonds shall be sold on sealed bids, and notice of the sale shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper having a general circulation throughout the State of Arkansas or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, at least ten (10) days ~~prior to~~ before the date of the sale.

(3) In either case, the bonds may be sold at such price as the city may accept, including sale at a discount.

SECTION 179. Arkansas Code § 26-75-209(1)(B), concerning notice of the effective date of an ordinance, is amended to read as follows:

(B) Following the election, the mayor of the city shall issue his or her proclamation of the results of the election with reference to the local sales and use tax, and the proclamation shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper having general circulation in the city on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 180. Arkansas Code § 26-75-304(g), concerning notice of the issuance of bonds, is amended to read as follows:

(g)(1) Bonds issued under the authority of this subchapter may be sold at public or private sale. If sold at public sale, the bonds shall be sold on sealed bids, and notice of the sale shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper having a general circulation throughout the State of Arkansas or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, at least ten (10) days ~~prior to~~ before the date of the sale.

(3) In either case, the bonds may be sold at such price as the city may accept, including sale at a discount.

SECTION 181. Arkansas Code § 26-75-309(1)(B), concerning notice of the effective date of an ordinance, is amended to read as follows:

(B) Following the election, the mayor of the city shall issue his or her proclamation of the results of the election with reference to the local sales and use tax, and the proclamation shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper having general circulation in the city or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 182. Arkansas Code § 26-75-404(d)(1), concerning notice of election requirements and procedures, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) Following the election, the mayor of the city or town shall issue a proclamation of the results of the election, and the proclamation

shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper having general circulation in the city or town or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 183. Arkansas Code § 26-75-503(e), concerning notice of election requirements, is amended to read as follows:

(e) ~~Prior to~~ Before the election, the ordinance shall be published one (1) time a week for at least three (3) weeks in at least one (1) newspaper published in the city in which the election is to be held or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 184. Arkansas Code § 26-77-104 is amended to read as follows:
26-77-104. Publication of licensing ordinance.

(a) Any ordinance passed under the provisions of this chapter, before becoming effective, shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper of bona fide circulation in the city or town or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

(b) The publication shall not be later than one (1) week after the passage of the ordinance.

SECTION 185. Arkansas Code § 26-78-111(e), concerning notice of an election for local taxes, is amended to read as follows:

(e) Notice of the election shall be given by the governing body of the municipality or the county in a newspaper of general circulation within the municipality or county one (1) time a week or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 for four (4) consecutive weeks, with the last publication to be not less than ten (10) days ~~prior to~~ before the date of the election.

SECTION 186. Arkansas Code § 26-81-106(a)(1), concerning notice of election results for local taxes, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) Upon certification of the election results, the county judge shall issue a proclamation declaring the results of the election and cause the proclamation to be published one (1) time in a newspaper having general circulation within the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 187. Arkansas Code § 26-82-105(1)(B)(ii), concerning notice of requirements and effective dates for local taxes, is amended to read as follows:

(ii) The proclamation described in subdivision (1)(B)(i) of this section shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper having general circulation within the levying entity or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 188. Arkansas Code § 27-66-505(b), concerning notice of prohibition on the use of heavily loaded vehicles during emergencies, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) Whenever, in the judgment of the county judge, an emergency arises in his or her county, as described in subsection (a) of this section, he or she shall cause notice to be posted in the county courthouse to the effect that until further notice the operation of vehicles having a net load

of more than three thousand five hundred pounds (3,500 lbs.) over the highways described in the notice is prohibited.

(2) Notice shall also be posted in at least ten (10) of the most prominent and public places in the county and be published in a newspaper in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126 ~~if~~ practicable.

(3) Notice may also be given by mail, telephone, or personal contact to persons operating vehicles, and notice by mail, telephone, or personal contact shall be sufficient notice for the purposes of this section.

SECTION 189. Arkansas Code § 28-52-106 is amended to read as follows:
28-52-106. Notice of filing of accounts.

During the first week of each month the clerk shall publish, in a newspaper published or having a general circulation in the county or on a website that meets the criteria under § 25-1-126, a notice of estates in which accounts have been filed by personal representatives during the preceding month, listing in alphabetical order the names of the estates, with the names of the personal representatives thereof and the respective dates of the filing of the accounts, and calling on interested persons to file objections to the accounts on or before the sixtieth day following the filing of the respective accounts, failing which the persons will be barred forever from excepting to the account.

SECTION 190. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE.

(a) A county or municipality that publishes notices under the sections amended by this act in a newspaper and passes an ordinance to publish notices on a website, shall publish a notice in its current newspaper monthly for a period of one (1) year.

(b) A notice required under subsection (a) of this section shall:

(1) Be no larger than two (2) columns wide by two (2) inches long;

(2) Contain the website address where the county or municipality's public notice may be found;

(4) Contain the address of the county or municipal office where notice may be requested; and

(5) Contain the statement of payment required under § 25-1-126.

SECTION 191. DO NOT CODIFY. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective on and after August 1, 2028.

(b) Section 169 of this act is effective on and after January 1, 2024."

The Amendment was read
By: Representative Cavanaugh
MLD/MLD - 03-26-2023 21:39:50
MLD326

Chief Clerk