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HOUSE BILL 957

By Gant

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 1, Chapter 3 and Title 8, Chapter 21, relative to notice.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 21, Part 13, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a) A local governmental entity responsible for publishing a legal notice of any kind allowed or required by law may elect to publish the notice on that entity's publicly available website in lieu of other publication methods. This electronic option for publication is in addition to any other method of publication required by law.

(b) An electronically published legal notice has the same legal effect as a legal notice published in a newspaper, and must be published in the same manner as a legal notice that would otherwise be published in a newspaper. The electronically published legal notice must also be published for the same period of time as a legal notice that would otherwise be published in a newspaper. All electronically posted legal notices must be indexed in such a way that the general public is able to easily find a particular legal notice by subject.

(c) The governmental entity responsible for procuring publication of any legal notice that is published under this section must make known where these legal notices are published, by placing the information on the governmental entity's website and prominently displaying this information at all of the court or governmental entity's offices that publish legal notices.

(d) The governmental entity responsible for procuring publication of any legal notice that is published under this section may give notice of the internet address where these legal notices are published, by posting the internet address in a newspaper of general circulation or over any radio or television station.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to any notice published on or after that date.