

By Representative A. Greene

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to water management special
3 district meeting notices; amending s. 189.417,
4 F.S.; authorizing water management districts to
5 provide certain notice of public meetings held
6 to evaluate responses to solicitations issued
7 by the water management district by publication
8 in certain newspapers; providing an effective
9 date.

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

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13 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 189.417, Florida
14 Statutes, is amended to read:

15 189.417 Meetings; notice; required reports.--

16 (1) The governing body of each special district shall
17 file quarterly, semiannually, or annually a schedule of its
18 regular meetings with the local governing authority or
19 authorities. The schedule shall include the date, time, and
20 location of each scheduled meeting. The schedule shall be
21 published quarterly, semiannually, or annually in a newspaper
22 of general paid circulation in the manner required in this
23 subsection. The governing body of an independent special
24 district shall advertise the day, time, place, and purpose of
25 any meeting other than a regular meeting or any recessed and
26 reconvened meeting of the governing body, at least 7 days
27 prior to such meeting, in a newspaper of general paid
28 circulation in the county or counties in which the special
29 district is located, unless a bona fide emergency situation
30 exists, in which case a meeting to deal with the emergency may
31 be held as necessary, with reasonable notice, so long as it is

1 subsequently ratified by the board. No approval of the annual
2 budget shall be granted at an emergency meeting. The
3 advertisement shall be placed in that portion of the newspaper
4 where legal notices and classified advertisements appear. The
5 advertisement shall appear in a newspaper that is published at
6 least 5 days a week, unless the only newspaper in the county
7 is published fewer than 5 days a week. The newspaper selected
8 must be one of general interest and readership in the
9 community and not one of limited subject matter, pursuant to
10 chapter 50. Any other provision of law to the contrary
11 notwithstanding, and except in the case of emergency meetings,
12 water management districts may provide reasonable notice of
13 public meetings held to evaluate responses to solicitations
14 issued by the water management district, by publication in a
15 newspaper of general paid circulation in the county where the
16 principal office of the water management district is located,
17 or in the county or counties where the public work will be
18 performed, no less than 7 days before such meeting.

19 (2) All meetings of the governing body of the special
20 district shall be open to the public and governed by the
21 provisions of chapter 286.

22 (3) Meetings of the governing body of the special
23 district shall be held in a public building when available
24 within the district, in a county courthouse of a county in
25 which the district is located, or in a building in the county
26 accessible to the public.

27 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.
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HOUSE SUMMARY

Provides that water management districts may provide reasonable notice of public meetings held to evaluate responses to solicitations issued by the water management district, by publication in a newspaper of general paid circulation in the county where the principal office of the water management district is located, or in the county or counties where the public work will be performed, no less than 7 days prior to the meeting.