

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to governmental agency publication of
 3 advertisements and public notices; amending s.
 4 50.0311, F.S.; expanding the definition of the term
 5 "governmental agency" to include a clerk of court,
 6 comptroller, or tax collector; revising the definition
 7 of the term "publicly accessible website"; revising
 8 the website that a governmental agency may use for
 9 publication of legally required advertisements and
 10 public notices; removing a requirement that a
 11 governmental agency include on a registry information
 12 about persons who request to receive public notices by
 13 first-class mail; reenacting ss. 11.02, 45.031(2),
 14 50.011(2), 50.021, 50.0211(3), 50.031, 50.051,
 15 50.061(4), 50.0711(1), (3) and (4), 69.081(9),
 16 90.902(12), 120.81(1)(d), 121.055(1)(b) and (h),
 17 125.66(2)(a), 162.12(2)(a), 189.015(1), 190.005(1)(d),
 18 197.402(1), 200.065(2)(f), 338.223(1)(c), 348.0308(3),
 19 348.635(3), 348.7605(3), 373.0397, 373.146,
 20 403.722(12), 849.38(5), 932.704(6)(a), 1001.372(2)(c),
 21 and 1011.03(1), F.S., relating to notice of special or
 22 local legislation or certain relief acts, judicial
 23 sales procedure, publication of legal notices,
 24 publication when no newspaper in county, Internet
 25 website publication, newspapers in which legal notices

26 | and process may be published, proof of publication,
27 | form of uniform affidavit, amounts chargeable, court
28 | docket fund, service charges, publications, sunshine
29 | in litigation, concealment of public hazards
30 | prohibited, self-authentication, exceptions and
31 | special requirements, general areas, Senior Management
32 | Service Class, ordinances, enactment procedure,
33 | emergency ordinances, rezoning or change of land use
34 | ordinances or resolutions, notices, meetings, notice,
35 | required reports, establishment of district,
36 | advertisement of real or personal property with
37 | delinquent taxes, method of fixing millage, proposed
38 | turnpike projects, public-private partnership, public-
39 | private partnership, public-private partnership,
40 | Floridan and Biscayne aquifers, designation of prime
41 | groundwater recharge areas, publication of notices,
42 | process, and papers, permits, hazardous waste
43 | disposal, storage, and treatment facilities,
44 | proceedings for forfeiture, notice of seizure and
45 | order to show cause, forfeiture proceedings, district
46 | school board meetings, public hearings, budget to be
47 | submitted to Department of Education, respectively;
48 | providing an effective date.

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50 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Subsections (1), (2), (3), and (6) of section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

50.0311 Publication of advertisements and public notices on a publicly accessible website and governmental access channels.—

(1) For purposes of this chapter, the term "governmental agency" means a county, municipality, school board, clerk of court, comptroller, tax collector, or other unit of local government or political subdivision in this state.

(2) For purposes of notices and advertisements required under s. 50.011, the term "publicly accessible website" means a governmental agency's ~~county's~~ official website or other private website designated by the governmental agency ~~county~~ for the publication of legal notices and advertisements that is accessible via the Internet. All advertisements and public notices published on a website as provided in this chapter must be in searchable form and indicate the date on which the advertisement or public notice was first published on the website.

(3) A governmental agency may use such governmental agency's ~~the publicly accessible website of the county in which it lies~~ to publish legally required advertisements and public notices if the cost of publishing advertisements and public notices on such website is less than the cost of publishing

76 | advertisements and public notices in a newspaper.

77 | (6) A governmental agency that uses a publicly accessible
 78 | website to publish legally required advertisements and public
 79 | notices shall provide notice at least once per year in a
 80 | newspaper of general circulation or another publication that is
 81 | mailed or delivered to all residents and property owners
 82 | throughout the government's jurisdiction, indicating that
 83 | property owners and residents may receive legally required
 84 | advertisements and public notices from the governmental agency
 85 | by first-class mail or e-mail upon registering their name and
 86 | address or e-mail address with the governmental agency. The
 87 | governmental agency shall maintain a registry of names,
 88 | addresses, and e-mail addresses of property owners and residents
 89 | who have requested in writing that they receive legally required
 90 | advertisements and public notices from the governmental agency
 91 | by ~~first-class mail or~~ e-mail.

92 | **Section 2. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 93 | **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 94 | **reference thereto, section 11.02, Florida Statutes, is reenacted**
 95 | **to read:**

96 | 11.02 Notice of special or local legislation or certain
 97 | relief acts.—The notice required to obtain special or local
 98 | legislation or any relief act specified in s. 11.065 shall be by
 99 | publishing the identical notice as provided in chapter 50 or
 100 | circulated throughout the county or counties where the matter or

101 thing to be affected by such legislation shall be situated one
 102 time at least 30 days before introduction of the proposed law
 103 into the Legislature or, if the notice is not published on a
 104 publicly accessible website as provided in s. 50.0311 and there
 105 is no newspaper circulated throughout or published in the
 106 county, by posting for at least 30 days at not fewer than three
 107 public places in the county or each of the counties, one of
 108 which places shall be at the courthouse in the county or
 109 counties where the matter or thing to be affected by such
 110 legislation shall be situated. Notice of special or local
 111 legislation shall state the substance of the contemplated law,
 112 as required by s. 10, Art. III of the State Constitution. Notice
 113 of any relief act specified in s. 11.065 shall state the name of
 114 the claimant, the nature of the injury or loss for which the
 115 claim is made, and the amount of the claim against the affected
 116 municipality's revenue-sharing trust fund.

117 **Section 3. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 118 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 119 **reference thereto, subsection (2) of section 45.031, Florida**
 120 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

121 45.031 Judicial sales procedure.—In any sale of real or
 122 personal property under an order or judgment, the procedures
 123 provided in this section and ss. 45.0315-45.035 may be followed
 124 as an alternative to any other sale procedure if so ordered by
 125 the court.

126 (2) PUBLICATION OF SALE.—Notice of sale shall be published
127 on a publicly accessible website as provided in s. 50.0311 for
128 at least 2 consecutive weeks before the sale or once a week for
129 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation, as
130 provided in chapter 50, published in the county where the sale
131 is to be held. The second publication by newspaper shall be at
132 least 5 days before the sale. The notice shall contain:

133 (a) A description of the property to be sold.

134 (b) The time and place of sale.

135 (c) A statement that the sale will be made pursuant to the
136 order or final judgment.

137 (d) The caption of the action.

138 (e) The name of the clerk making the sale.

139 (f) A statement that any person claiming an interest in
140 the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner
141 as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim before the
142 clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.

143
144 The court, in its discretion, may enlarge the time of the sale.
145 Notice of the changed time of sale shall be published as
146 provided herein.

147 **Section 4. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
148 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
149 **reference thereto, subsection (2) of section 50.011, Florida**
150 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

151 50.011 Publication of legal notices.—Whenever by statute
 152 an official or legal advertisement or a publication or notice in
 153 a newspaper or on a governmental agency website has been or is
 154 directed or permitted in the nature of or in lieu of process, or
 155 for constructive service, or in initiating, assuming, reviewing,
 156 exercising, or enforcing jurisdiction or power, or for any
 157 purpose, including all legal notices and advertisements of
 158 sheriffs and tax collectors, such legislation, whether existing
 159 or repealed, means either of the following:

160 (2) A publication on a publicly accessible website under
 161 s. 50.0311.

162 **Section 5. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 163 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 164 **reference thereto, section 50.021, Florida Statutes, is**
 165 **reenacted to read:**

166 50.021 Publication when no newspaper in county.—When any
 167 law, or order or decree of court, directs advertisements to be
 168 made in a county and there is no newspaper published in the
 169 county, the advertisement may be published on a publicly
 170 accessible website as provided in s. 50.0311 or made by posting
 171 three copies thereof in three different places in the county,
 172 one of which shall be at the front door of the courthouse, and
 173 by publication in the nearest county in which a newspaper
 174 qualified under this chapter is published.

175 **Section 6. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**

176 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 177 **reference thereto, subsection (3) of section 50.0211, Florida**
 178 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

179 50.0211 Internet website publication.—

180 (3) (a) If a legal notice is published in the print edition
 181 of a newspaper, the newspaper publishing the notice shall place
 182 the notice on the statewide website established and maintained
 183 as an initiative of the Florida Press Association as a
 184 repository for such notices located at the following address:
 185 www.floridapublicnotices.com.

186 (b) A legal notice placed on the statewide website created
 187 under this subsection must be:

- 188 1. Accessible and searchable by party name and case
 189 number.
- 190 2. Published for a period of at least 90 consecutive days
 191 after the first day of publication.

192 (c) The statewide website created under this subsection
 193 shall maintain a searchable archive of all legal notices
 194 published on the publicly accessible website for 18 months after
 195 the first day of publication. Such searchable archive shall be
 196 provided and accessible to the general public without charge.

197 **Section 7. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 198 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 199 **reference thereto, section 50.031, Florida Statutes, is**
 200 **reenacted to read:**

201 50.031 Newspapers in which legal notices and process may
202 be published.—If a governmental agency publishes a legal notice
203 in a newspaper, no notice or publication required to be
204 published in the nature of or in lieu of process of any kind,
205 nature, character, or description provided for under any law of
206 the state, whether heretofore or hereafter enacted, and whether
207 pertaining to constructive service, or the initiating, assuming,
208 reviewing, exercising, or enforcing jurisdiction or power, by
209 any court in this state, or any notice of sale of property, real
210 or personal, for taxes, state, county, or municipal, or
211 sheriff's, guardian's, or administrator's or any sale made
212 pursuant to any judicial order, decree, or statute or any other
213 publication or notice pertaining to any affairs of the state, or
214 any county, municipality, or other political subdivision
215 thereof, shall be deemed to have been published in accordance
216 with the statutes providing for such publication, unless the
217 same shall have been published for the prescribed period of time
218 required for such publication, in a newspaper which at the time
219 of such publication shall have been in existence for 2 years and
220 meets the requirements set forth in s. 50.011, or in a newspaper
221 which is a direct successor of a newspaper which has been so
222 published; provided, however, that nothing herein contained
223 shall apply where in any county there shall be no newspaper in
224 existence which shall have been published for the length of time
225 above prescribed. No legal publication of any kind, nature, or

226 description, as herein defined, shall be valid or binding or
 227 held to be in compliance with the statutes providing for such
 228 publication unless the same shall have been published in
 229 accordance with this section or s. 50.0311. Proof of such
 230 publication shall be made by uniform affidavit.

231 **Section 8. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 232 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 233 **reference thereto, section 50.051, Florida Statutes, is**
 234 **reenacted to read:**

235 50.051 Proof of publication; form of uniform affidavit.—
 236 The printed form upon which all such affidavits establishing
 237 proof of publication are to be executed shall be substantially
 238 as follows:

239 NAME OF COUNTY
 240 STATE OF FLORIDA
 241 COUNTY OF

242 Before the undersigned authority personally appeared,
 243 who on oath says that he or she is of County, Florida;
 244 that the attached copy of advertisement, being a in the
 245 matter of in the Court, was published on the publicly
 246 accessible website of County, Florida, or in a newspaper by
 247 print in the issues of on ...(date)....

248 Affiant further says that the website or newspaper complies
 249 with all legal requirements for publication in chapter 50,
 250 Florida Statutes.

251 Sworn to and subscribed before me this day of,
 252 ... (year) ..., by, who is personally known to me or who has
 253 produced ... (type of identification) ... as identification.
 254 ... (Signature of Notary Public) ...
 255 ... (Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public) ...
 256 ... (Notary Public) ...

257 **Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 258 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 259 **reference thereto, subsection (4) of section 50.061, Florida**
 260 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

261 50.061 Amounts chargeable.—

262 (4) A governmental agency publishing an official public
 263 notice or legal advertisement may procure publication by
 264 soliciting and accepting written bids from newspapers published
 265 in the county, in which case the specified charges in this
 266 section do not apply.

267 **Section 10. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 268 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 269 **reference thereto, subsections (1), (3), and (4) of section**
 270 **50.0711, Florida Statutes, are reenacted to read:**

271 50.0711 Court docket fund; service charges; publications.—

272 (1) The clerk of the court in each county may establish a
 273 court docket fund for the purpose of paying the cost of
 274 publication of the fact of the filing of any civil case in the
 275 circuit court of the county by the style and of the calendar

276 relating to such cases. This court docket fund shall be funded
277 by \$1 mandatory court cost for all civil actions, suits, or
278 proceedings filed in the circuit court of the county. The clerk
279 shall maintain such funds separate and apart, and the proceeds
280 from this court cost shall not be diverted to any other fund or
281 for any purpose other than that established in this section. The
282 clerk of the court shall dispense the fund to the designated
283 publicly accessible website publisher or record newspaper in the
284 county on a quarterly basis.

285 (3) The publicly accessible website publisher or
286 publishers of any designated record newspapers receiving payment
287 from this court docket fund shall publish, without additional
288 charge, the fact of the filing of any civil case, suit, or
289 action filed in such county in the circuit. Such publication
290 shall be in accordance with a schedule agreed upon between the
291 website publisher or record newspaper and the clerk of the court
292 in such county.

293 (4) The publicly accessible website publisher or
294 publishers of any designated record newspapers receiving
295 revenues from the court docket fund established in subsection
296 (1) shall, without charge, accept legal advertisements for the
297 purpose of service of process by publication under s. 49.011(4),
298 (10), and (11) when such publication is required of persons
299 authorized to proceed as indigent persons under s. 57.081.

300 **Section 11. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**

301 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 302 **reference thereto, subsection (9) of section 69.081, Florida**
 303 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

304 69.081 Sunshine in litigation; concealment of public
 305 hazards prohibited.—

306 (9) A governmental entity, except a municipality or
 307 county, that settles a claim in tort which requires the
 308 expenditure of public funds in excess of \$5,000, shall provide
 309 notice, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 50, of such
 310 settlement, in the county in which the claim arose, within 60
 311 days of entering into such settlement; provided that no notice
 312 shall be required if the settlement has been approved by a court
 313 of competent jurisdiction.

314 **Section 12. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 315 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 316 **reference thereto, subsection (12) of section 90.902, Florida**
 317 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

318 90.902 Self-authentication.—Extrinsic evidence of
 319 authenticity as a condition precedent to admissibility is not
 320 required for:

321 (12) A legal notice published in accordance with the
 322 requirements of chapter 50 in the print edition of a qualified
 323 newspaper or on a publicly accessible website as provided in s.
 324 50.0311.

325 **Section 13. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**

326 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 327 **reference thereto, paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section**
 328 **120.81, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

329 120.81 Exceptions and special requirements; general
 330 areas.—

331 (1) EDUCATIONAL UNITS.—

332 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter,
 333 educational units shall not be required to include the full text
 334 of the rule or rule amendment in notices relating to rules and
 335 need not publish these or other notices in the Florida
 336 Administrative Register, but notice shall be made:

337 1. By publication in a newspaper qualified under chapter
 338 50 in the affected area or on a publicly accessible website as
 339 provided in s. 50.0311;

340 2. By mail to all persons who have made requests of the
 341 educational unit for advance notice of its proceedings and to
 342 organizations representing persons affected by the proposed
 343 rule; and

344 3. By posting in appropriate places so that those
 345 particular classes of persons to whom the intended action is
 346 directed may be duly notified.

347 **Section 14. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 348 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 349 **reference thereto, paragraphs (b) and (h) of subsection (1) of**
 350 **section 121.055, Florida Statutes, are reenacted to read:**

351 121.055 Senior Management Service Class.—There is hereby
352 established a separate class of membership within the Florida
353 Retirement System to be known as the "Senior Management Service
354 Class," which shall become effective February 1, 1987.

355 (1)

356 (b)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., effective
357 January 1, 1990, participation in the Senior Management Service
358 Class is compulsory for the president of each community college,
359 the manager of each participating municipality or county, and
360 all appointed district school superintendents. Effective January
361 1, 1994, additional positions may be designated for inclusion in
362 the Senior Management Service Class if:

363 a. Positions to be included in the class are designated by
364 the local agency employer. Notice of intent to designate
365 positions for inclusion in the class must be published for at
366 least 2 consecutive weeks if published on a publicly accessible
367 website as provided in s. 50.0311 or, if published in print,
368 once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper qualified
369 under chapter 50 that is published in the county or counties
370 affected.

371 b. Up to 10 nonelective full-time positions may be
372 designated for each local agency employer reporting to the
373 department; for local agencies with 100 or more regularly
374 established positions, additional nonelective full-time
375 positions may be designated, not to exceed 1 percent of the

376 regularly established positions within the agency.

377 c. Each position added to the class must be a managerial
378 or policymaking position filled by an employee who is not
379 subject to continuing contract and serves at the pleasure of the
380 local agency employer without civil service protection, and who:

381 (I) Heads an organizational unit; or

382 (II) Has responsibility to effect or recommend personnel,
383 budget, expenditure, or policy decisions in his or her areas of
384 responsibility.

385 2. In lieu of participation in the Senior Management
386 Service Class, members of the Senior Management Service Class,
387 pursuant to subparagraph 1., may withdraw from the Florida
388 Retirement System altogether. The decision to withdraw from the
389 system is irrevocable as long as the employee holds the
390 position. Any service creditable under the Senior Management
391 Service Class shall be retained after the member withdraws from
392 the system; however, additional service credit in the Senior
393 Management Service Class may not be earned after such
394 withdrawal. Such members are not eligible to participate in the
395 Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program.

396 3. Effective January 1, 2006, through June 30, 2006, an
397 employee who has withdrawn from the Florida Retirement System
398 under subparagraph 2. has one opportunity to elect to
399 participate in the pension plan or the investment plan.

400 a. If the employee elects to participate in the investment

401 plan, membership shall be prospective, and the applicable
402 provisions of s. 121.4501(4) govern the election.

403 b. If the employee elects to participate in the pension
404 plan, the employee shall, upon payment to the system trust fund
405 of the amount calculated under sub-sub-subparagraph (I), receive
406 service credit for prior service based upon the time during
407 which the employee had withdrawn from the system.

408 (I) The cost for such credit shall be an amount
409 representing the actuarial accrued liability for the affected
410 period of service. The cost shall be calculated using the
411 discount rate and other relevant actuarial assumptions that were
412 used to value the pension plan liabilities in the most recent
413 actuarial valuation. The calculation must include any service
414 already maintained under the pension plan in addition to the
415 period of withdrawal. The actuarial accrued liability
416 attributable to any service already maintained under the pension
417 plan shall be applied as a credit to the total cost resulting
418 from the calculation. The division must ensure that the transfer
419 sum is prepared using a formula and methodology certified by an
420 actuary.

421 (II) The employee must transfer a sum representing the net
422 cost owed for the actuarial accrued liability in sub-sub-
423 subparagraph (I) immediately following the time of such
424 movement, determined assuming that attained service equals the
425 sum of service in the pension plan and the period of withdrawal.

426 (h)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 3., effective
427 January 1, 1994, participation in the Senior Management Service
428 Class shall be compulsory for the State Courts Administrator and
429 the Deputy State Courts Administrators, the Clerk of the Supreme
430 Court, the Marshal of the Supreme Court, the Executive Director
431 of the Justice Administrative Commission, the capital collateral
432 regional counsel, the clerks of the district courts of appeals,
433 the marshals of the district courts of appeals, and the trial
434 court administrator and the Chief Deputy Court Administrator in
435 each judicial circuit. Effective January 1, 1994, additional
436 positions in the offices of the state attorney and public
437 defender in each judicial circuit may be designated for
438 inclusion in the Senior Management Service Class of the Florida
439 Retirement System, provided that:

440 a. Positions to be included in the class shall be
441 designated by the state attorney or public defender, as
442 appropriate. Notice of intent to designate positions for
443 inclusion in the class shall be published for at least 2
444 consecutive weeks on a publicly accessible website as provided
445 in s. 50.0311 or, if published in print, once a week for 2
446 consecutive weeks in a newspaper qualified under chapter 50 in
447 the county or counties affected.

448 b. One nonelective full-time position may be designated
449 for each state attorney and public defender reporting to the
450 Department of Management Services; for agencies with 200 or more

451 regularly established positions under the state attorney or
452 public defender, additional nonelective full-time positions may
453 be designated, not to exceed 0.5 percent of the regularly
454 established positions within the agency.

455 c. Each position added to the class must be a managerial
456 or policymaking position filled by an employee who serves at the
457 pleasure of the state attorney or public defender without civil
458 service protection, and who:

459 (I) Heads an organizational unit; or

460 (II) Has responsibility to effect or recommend personnel,
461 budget, expenditure, or policy decisions in his or her areas of
462 responsibility.

463 2. Participation in this class shall be compulsory, except
464 as provided in subparagraph 3., for any judicial employee who
465 holds a position designated for coverage in the Senior
466 Management Service Class, and such participation shall continue
467 until the employee terminates employment in a covered position.
468 Effective January 1, 2001, participation in this class is
469 compulsory for assistant state attorneys, assistant statewide
470 prosecutors, assistant public defenders, and assistant capital
471 collateral regional counsel. Effective January 1, 2002,
472 participation in this class is compulsory for assistant
473 attorneys general.

474 3. In lieu of participation in the Senior Management
475 Service Class, such members, excluding assistant state

476 attorneys, assistant public defenders, assistant statewide
477 prosecutors, assistant attorneys general, and assistant capital
478 collateral regional counsel, may participate in the Senior
479 Management Service Optional Annuity Program as established in
480 subsection (6).

481 **Section 15. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
482 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
483 **reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section**
484 **125.66, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

485 125.66 Ordinances; enactment procedure; emergency
486 ordinances; rezoning or change of land use ordinances or
487 resolutions.—

488 (2) (a) The regular enactment procedure is as follows: The
489 board of county commissioners at any regular or special meeting
490 may enact or amend any ordinance, except as provided in
491 subsection (5), if notice of intent to consider such ordinance
492 is given at least 10 days before such meeting by publication as
493 provided in chapter 50. A copy of such notice must be kept
494 available for public inspection during the regular business
495 hours of the office of the clerk of the board of county
496 commissioners. The notice of proposed enactment must state the
497 date, time, and place of the meeting; the title or titles of
498 proposed ordinances; and the place or places within the county
499 where such proposed ordinances may be inspected by the public.
500 The notice must also advise that interested parties may appear

501 at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed
 502 ordinance.

503 **Section 16. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 504 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 505 **reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section**
 506 **162.12, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

507 162.12 Notices.—

508 (2) In addition to providing notice as set forth in
 509 subsection (1), at the option of the code enforcement board or
 510 the local government, notice may be served by publication or
 511 posting, as follows:

512 (a)1. Such notice shall be published in print in a
 513 newspaper or on a publicly accessible website as provided in s.
 514 50.0311 for 4 consecutive weeks. If published in print, the
 515 notice shall be published once during each week for 4
 516 consecutive weeks (four publications being sufficient) in a
 517 newspaper in the county where the code enforcement board is
 518 located. The newspaper shall meet such requirements as are
 519 prescribed under chapter 50 for legal and official
 520 advertisements.

521 2. Proof of publication shall be made as provided in ss.
 522 50.041 and 50.051.

523 **Section 17. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 524 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 525 **reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 189.015, Florida**

526 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

527 189.015 Meetings; notice; required reports.—

528 (1) The governing body of each special district shall file
529 quarterly, semiannually, or annually a schedule of its regular
530 meetings with the local governing authority or authorities. The
531 schedule shall include the date, time, and location of each
532 scheduled meeting. The schedule shall be published quarterly,
533 semiannually, or annually in the manner required in this
534 subsection. The governing body of an independent special
535 district shall advertise the day, time, place, and purpose of
536 any meeting other than a regular meeting or any recessed and
537 reconvened meeting of the governing body, at least 7 days before
538 such meeting as provided in chapter 50 in the county or counties
539 in which the special district is located, unless a bona fide
540 emergency situation exists, in which case a meeting to deal with
541 the emergency may be held as necessary, with reasonable notice,
542 so long as it is subsequently ratified by the governing body. No
543 approval of the annual budget shall be granted at an emergency
544 meeting. The notice shall be posted as provided in chapter 50.
545 Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, and
546 except in the case of emergency meetings, water management
547 districts may provide reasonable notice of public meetings held
548 to evaluate responses to solicitations issued by the water
549 management district, as provided in chapter 50 by publication on
550 a publicly accessible website or by publication in a newspaper

551 in the county where the principal office of the water management
552 district is located, or in the county or counties where the
553 public work will be performed, no fewer than 7 days before such
554 meeting.

555 **Section 18. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
556 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
557 **reference thereto, paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section**
558 **190.005, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

559 190.005 Establishment of district.—

560 (1) The exclusive and uniform method for the establishment
561 of a community development district with a size of 2,500 acres
562 or more shall be pursuant to a rule, adopted under chapter 120
563 by the Florida Land and Water Adjudicatory Commission, granting
564 a petition for the establishment of a community development
565 district.

566 (d) A local public hearing on the petition shall be
567 conducted by a hearing officer in conformance with the
568 applicable requirements and procedures of the Administrative
569 Procedure Act. The hearing shall include oral and written
570 comments on the petition pertinent to the factors specified in
571 paragraph (e). The hearing shall be held at an accessible
572 location in the county in which the community development
573 district is to be located. The petitioner shall cause a notice
574 of the hearing to be published for 4 successive weeks on a
575 publicly accessible website as provided in s. 50.0311 or, if

576 published in print, in a newspaper at least once a week for the
577 4 successive weeks immediately prior to the hearing as provided
578 in chapter 50. Such notice shall give the time and place for the
579 hearing, a description of the area to be included in the
580 district, which description shall include a map showing clearly
581 the area to be covered by the district, and any other relevant
582 information which the establishing governing bodies may require.
583 If published in the print edition of a newspaper, the
584 advertisement may not be placed in the portion of the newspaper
585 where legal notices and classified advertisements appear. The
586 advertisement must be published in a newspaper in the county and
587 of general interest and readership in the community pursuant to
588 chapter 50. Whenever possible, the advertisement shall appear in
589 a newspaper that is published at least weekly, unless the only
590 newspaper in the community is published less than weekly. If the
591 notice is published in the print edition of the newspaper, the
592 map must also be included in any online advertisement pursuant
593 to s. 50.0211. All affected units of general-purpose local
594 government and the general public shall be given an opportunity
595 to appear at the hearing and present oral or written comments on
596 the petition.

597 **Section 19. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
598 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
599 **reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 197.402, Florida**
600 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

601 197.402 Advertisement of real or personal property with
 602 delinquent taxes.—

603 (1) If advertisements are required, the board of county
 604 commissioners shall make such notice as provided in chapter 50.
 605 The tax collector shall pay all charges, and the proportionate
 606 cost of the advertisements shall be added to the delinquent
 607 taxes collected.

608 **Section 20. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 609 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 610 **reference thereto, paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section**
 611 **200.065, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

612 200.065 Method of fixing millage.—

613 (2) No millage shall be levied until a resolution or
 614 ordinance has been approved by the governing board of the taxing
 615 authority which resolution or ordinance must be approved by the
 616 taxing authority according to the following procedure:

617 (f)1. Notwithstanding any provisions of paragraph (c) to
 618 the contrary, each school district shall advertise its intent to
 619 adopt a tentative budget on a publicly accessible website
 620 pursuant to s. 50.0311 or in a newspaper of general circulation
 621 pursuant to subsection (3) within 29 days after certification of
 622 value pursuant to subsection (1). For the purpose of this
 623 paragraph, the term "publicly accessible website" includes a
 624 district school board's official website if the school board
 625 website satisfies the remaining requirements of s. 50.0311. Not

626 | less than 2 days or more than 5 days thereafter, the district
627 | shall hold a public hearing on the tentative budget pursuant to
628 | the applicable provisions of paragraph (c). In the event of
629 | postponement or recess due to a declared state of emergency, the
630 | school district may postpone or recess the hearing for up to 7
631 | days and shall post a prominent notice at the place of the
632 | original hearing showing the date, time, and place where the
633 | hearing will be reconvened. The posted notice shall measure not
634 | less than 8.5 by 11 inches. The school district shall make every
635 | reasonable effort to provide reasonable notification of the
636 | continued hearing to the taxpayers. The information must also be
637 | posted on the school district's website if the district school
638 | board uses a different method of advertisement.

639 | 2. Notwithstanding any provisions of paragraph (b) to the
640 | contrary, each school district shall advise the property
641 | appraiser of its recomputed proposed millage rate within 35 days
642 | of certification of value pursuant to subsection (1). The
643 | recomputed proposed millage rate of the school district shall be
644 | considered its proposed millage rate for the purposes of
645 | paragraph (b).

646 | 3. Notwithstanding any provisions of paragraph (d) to the
647 | contrary, each school district shall hold a public hearing to
648 | finalize the budget and adopt a millage rate within 80 days of
649 | certification of value pursuant to subsection (1), but not
650 | earlier than 65 days after certification. The hearing shall be

651 held in accordance with the applicable provisions of paragraph
652 (d), except that a newspaper advertisement need not precede the
653 hearing.

654 **Section 21. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
655 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
656 **reference thereto, paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section**
657 **338.223, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

658 338.223 Proposed turnpike projects.—

659 (1)

660 (c) Prior to requesting legislative approval of a proposed
661 turnpike project, the environmental feasibility of the proposed
662 project shall be reviewed by the Department of Environmental
663 Protection. The department shall submit its Project Development
664 and Environmental Report to the Department of Environmental
665 Protection, along with a draft copy of a public notice. Within
666 14 days of receipt of the draft public notice, the Department of
667 Environmental Protection shall return the draft public notice to
668 the Department of Transportation with an approval of the
669 language or modifications to the language. Upon receipt of the
670 approved or modified draft, or if no comments are provided
671 within 14 days, the Department of Transportation shall publish
672 the notice as provided in chapter 50 to provide a 30-day public
673 comment period. If published in the print edition of a
674 newspaper, the headline of the required notice shall be in a
675 type no smaller than 18 point, shall be placed in that portion

676 of the newspaper where legal notices appear, and shall be
677 published in a newspaper qualified to publish legal notices in
678 the county or counties of general interest and readership in the
679 community as provided in s. 50.031. Whenever possible, the
680 notice shall appear in a newspaper that is published at least
681 weekly. All notices published pursuant to this section shall
682 include, at a minimum, the following information:

683 1. The purpose of the notice is to provide for a 30-day
684 period for written public comments on the environmental impacts
685 of a proposed turnpike project.

686 2. The name and description of the project, along with a
687 geographic location map clearly indicating the area where the
688 proposed project will be located.

689 3. The address where such comments must be sent and the
690 date such comments are due.

691

692 After a review of the department's report and any public
693 comments, the Department of Environmental Protection shall
694 submit a statement of environmental feasibility to the
695 department within 30 days after the date on which public
696 comments are due. The notice and the statement of environmental
697 feasibility shall not give rise to any rights to a hearing or
698 other rights or remedies provided pursuant to chapter 120 or
699 chapter 403, and shall not bind the Department of Environmental
700 Protection in any subsequent environmental permit review.

701 **Section 22. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 702 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 703 **reference thereto, subsection (3) of section 348.0308, Florida**
 704 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

705 348.0308 Public-private partnership.—The Legislature
 706 declares that there is a public need for the rapid construction
 707 of safe and efficient transportation facilities for traveling
 708 within the state and that it is in the public's interest to
 709 provide for public-private partnership agreements to effectuate
 710 the construction of additional safe, convenient, and economical
 711 transportation facilities.

712 (3) The agency may request proposals for public-private
 713 transportation projects or, if it receives an unsolicited
 714 proposal, it must publish a notice in the Florida Administrative
 715 Register and, as provided in chapter 50, on a publicly
 716 accessible website or by print in a newspaper qualified to
 717 publish legal notices in the county in which the project is
 718 located at least once a week for 2 weeks stating that it has
 719 received the proposal and will accept, for 60 days after the
 720 initial date of publication, other proposals for the same
 721 project purpose. A copy of the notice must be mailed to each
 722 local government in the affected areas. After the public
 723 notification period has expired, the agency shall rank the
 724 proposals in order of preference. In ranking the proposals, the
 725 agency shall consider professional qualifications, general

726 business terms, innovative engineering or cost-reduction terms,
727 finance plans, and the need for state funds to deliver the
728 proposal. If the agency is not satisfied with the results of the
729 negotiations, it may, at its sole discretion, terminate
730 negotiations with the proposer. If these negotiations are
731 unsuccessful, the agency may go to the second and lower-ranked
732 firms, in order, using the same procedure. If only one proposal
733 is received, the agency may negotiate in good faith, and if it
734 is not satisfied with the results, it may, at its sole
735 discretion, terminate negotiations with the proposer. The agency
736 may, at its discretion, reject all proposals at any point in the
737 process up to completion of a contract with the proposer.

738 **Section 23. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
739 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
740 **reference thereto, subsection (3) of section 348.635, Florida**
741 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

742 348.635 Public-private partnership.—The Legislature
743 declares that there is a public need for the rapid construction
744 of safe and efficient transportation facilities for traveling
745 within the state and that it is in the public's interest to
746 provide for public-private partnership agreements to effectuate
747 the construction of additional safe, convenient, and economical
748 transportation facilities.

749 (3) The authority may request proposals for public-private
750 transportation projects or, if it receives an unsolicited

751 proposal, it must publish a notice in the Florida Administrative
752 Register and, as provided in chapter 50, on a publicly
753 accessible website or by print in a newspaper in the county in
754 which the project is located at least once a week for 2 weeks
755 stating that it has received the proposal and will accept, for
756 60 days after the initial date of publication, other proposals
757 for the same project purpose. A copy of the notice must be
758 mailed to each local government in the affected areas. After the
759 public notification period has expired, the authority shall rank
760 the proposals in order of preference. In ranking the proposals,
761 the authority shall consider professional qualifications,
762 general business terms, innovative engineering or cost-reduction
763 terms, finance plans, and the need for state funds to deliver
764 the proposal. If the authority is not satisfied with the results
765 of the negotiations, it may, at its sole discretion, terminate
766 negotiations with the proposer. If these negotiations are
767 unsuccessful, the authority may go to the second and lower-
768 ranked firms, in order, using the same procedure. If only one
769 proposal is received, the authority may negotiate in good faith,
770 and if it is not satisfied with the results, it may, at its sole
771 discretion, terminate negotiations with the proposer. The
772 authority may, at its discretion, reject all proposals at any
773 point in the process up to completion of a contract with the
774 proposer.

775 **Section 24. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**

776 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
777 **reference thereto, subsection (3) of section 348.7605, Florida**
778 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

779 348.7605 Public-private partnership.—The Legislature
780 declares that there is a public need for the rapid construction
781 of safe and efficient transportation facilities for traveling
782 within the state and that it is in the public's interest to
783 provide for public-private partnership agreements to effectuate
784 the construction of additional safe, convenient, and economical
785 transportation facilities.

786 (3) The authority may request proposals for public-private
787 transportation projects or, if it receives an unsolicited
788 proposal, it must publish a notice in the Florida Administrative
789 Register and, as provided in chapter 50, on a publicly
790 accessible website or by print in a newspaper in the county in
791 which the project is located at least once a week for 2 weeks
792 stating that it has received the proposal and will accept, for
793 60 days after the initial date of publication, other proposals
794 for the same project purpose. A copy of the notice must be
795 mailed to each local government in the affected areas. After the
796 public notification period has expired, the authority shall rank
797 the proposals in order of preference. In ranking the proposals,
798 the authority shall consider professional qualifications,
799 general business terms, innovative engineering or cost-reduction
800 terms, finance plans, and the need for state funds to deliver

801 the proposal. If the authority is not satisfied with the results
802 of the negotiations, it may, at its sole discretion, terminate
803 negotiations with the proposer. If these negotiations are
804 unsuccessful, the authority may go to the second and lower-
805 ranked firms, in order, using the same procedure. If only one
806 proposal is received, the authority may negotiate in good faith,
807 and if it is not satisfied with the results, it may, at its sole
808 discretion, terminate negotiations with the proposer. The
809 authority may, at its discretion, reject all proposals at any
810 point in the process up to completion of a contract with the
811 proposer.

812 **Section 25. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
813 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
814 **reference thereto, section 373.0397, Florida Statutes, is**
815 **reenacted to read:**

816 373.0397 Floridan and Biscayne aquifers; designation of
817 prime groundwater recharge areas.—Upon preparation of an
818 inventory of prime groundwater recharge areas for the Floridan
819 or Biscayne aquifers, but prior to adoption by the governing
820 board, the water management district shall publish a legal
821 notice of public hearing on the designated areas for the
822 Floridan and Biscayne aquifers, with a map delineating the
823 boundaries of the areas, as provided in chapter 50. The notice
824 shall be at least one-fourth page and shall read as follows:

825 NOTICE OF PRIME RECHARGE

AREA DESIGNATION

The ...(name of taxing authority)... proposes to designate specific land areas as areas of prime recharge to the ...(name of aquifer)... Aquifer.

All concerned citizens are invited to attend a public hearing on the proposed designation to be held on ...(date and time)... at ...(meeting place)....

A map of the affected areas follows.

The governing board of the water management district shall adopt a designation of prime groundwater recharge areas to the Floridan and Biscayne aquifers by rule within 120 days after the public hearing, subject to the provisions of chapter 120.

Section 26. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, section 373.146, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

373.146 Publication of notices, process, and papers.—

(1) Whenever in this chapter the publication of any notice, process, or paper is required or provided for, unless otherwise provided by law, the publication thereof as provided in chapter 50 is considered as being sufficient.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, and except in the case of emergency meetings, water management districts may provide reasonable notice of public meetings held to evaluate responses to solicitations issued by

851 the water management district, by publication as provided in
852 chapter 50, no less than 7 days before such meeting.

853 **Section 27. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
854 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
855 **reference thereto, subsection (12) of section 403.722, Florida**
856 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

857 403.722 Permits; hazardous waste disposal, storage, and
858 treatment facilities.—

859 (12) On the same day of filing with the department of an
860 application for a permit for the construction modification, or
861 operation of a hazardous waste facility, the applicant shall
862 notify each city and county within 1 mile of the facility of the
863 filing of the application and shall publish notice of the filing
864 of the application. The applicant shall publish a second notice
865 of the filing within 14 days after the date of filing. Each
866 notice shall be published as provided in chapter 50 in the
867 county in which the facility is located or is proposed to be
868 located. The notice shall contain:

869 (a) The name of the applicant and a brief description of
870 the project and its location.

871 (b) The location of the application file and when it is
872 available for public inspection.

873

874 The notice shall be prepared by the applicant and shall comply
875 with the following format:

876 Notice of Application
 877 The Department of Environmental Protection announces receipt of
 878 an application for a permit from ...(name of applicant)... to
 879 ...(brief description of project).... This proposed project will
 880 be located at ...(location)... in ...(county)... ...(city)....
 881 This application is being processed and is available for public
 882 inspection during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.,
 883 Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at ...(name and
 884 address of office)....

885 **Section 28. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 886 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 887 **reference thereto, subsection (5) of section 849.38, Florida**
 888 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

889 849.38 Proceedings for forfeiture; notice of seizure and
 890 order to show cause.—

891 (5) If the value of the property seized is shown by the
 892 sheriff's return to have an appraised value of \$1,000 or less,
 893 the above citation shall be served by posting at three public
 894 places in the county, one of which shall be the front door of
 895 the courthouse; if the value of the property is shown by the
 896 sheriff's return to have an approximate value of more than
 897 \$1,000, the citation shall be published by print or posted for
 898 at least 2 consecutive weeks on a publicly accessible website as
 899 provided in s. 50.0311. If published in print, the citation
 900 shall appear at least once each week for 2 consecutive weeks in

901 a newspaper qualified to publish legal notices under chapter 50
902 that is published in the county, if there is such a newspaper
903 published in the county. If there is no such newspaper, the
904 notice of such publication shall be made by certificate of the
905 clerk if publication is made by posting, and by affidavit as
906 provided in chapter 50, if made by publication as provided in
907 chapter 50, which affidavit or certificate shall be filed and
908 become a part of the record in the cause. Failure of the record
909 to show proof of such publication shall not affect any judgment
910 made in the cause unless it shall affirmatively appear that no
911 such publication was made.

912 **Section 29. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
913 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
914 **reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section**
915 **932.704, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

916 932.704 Forfeiture proceedings.—

917 (6) (a) If the property is required by law to be titled or
918 registered, or if the owner of the property is known in fact to
919 the seizing agency, or if the seized property is subject to a
920 perfected security interest in accordance with the Uniform
921 Commercial Code, chapter 679, the attorney for the seizing
922 agency shall serve the forfeiture complaint as an original
923 service of process under the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure
924 and other applicable law to each person having an ownership or
925 security interest in the property. The seizing agency shall also

926 | publish, in accordance with chapter 50, notice of the forfeiture
 927 | complaint for 2 consecutive weeks on a publicly accessible
 928 | website or, if published in print, once each week for 2
 929 | consecutive weeks in a newspaper qualified to publish legal
 930 | notices under chapter 50 in the county where the seizure
 931 | occurred.

932 | **Section 30. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
 933 | **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
 934 | **reference thereto, paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section**
 935 | **1001.372, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

936 | 1001.372 District school board meetings.—

937 | (2) PLACE OF MEETINGS.—

938 | (c) For the purpose of this section, due public notice
 939 | shall consist of, at least 2 days prior to the meeting:
 940 | continuous publication on a publicly accessible website as
 941 | provided in s. 50.0311 or the official district school board
 942 | website; publication in a newspaper of general circulation in
 943 | the county, or in each county where there is no newspaper of
 944 | general circulation in the county, an announcement over at least
 945 | one radio station whose signal is generally received in the
 946 | county, a reasonable number of times daily during the 48 hours
 947 | immediately preceding the date of such meeting; or posting a
 948 | notice at the courthouse door if no newspaper is published in
 949 | the county.

950 | **Section 31. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**

951 **made by this act to section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, in a**
952 **reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 1011.03, Florida**
953 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

954 1011.03 Public hearings; budget to be submitted to
955 Department of Education.—

956 (1) Each district school board shall cause a summary of
957 its tentative budget, including the proposed millage levies as
958 provided for by law, to be posted on the district's official
959 website or on a publicly accessible website as provided in s.
960 50.0311.

961 **Section 32.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.