

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2148 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY B. MILLER, BOBACK, HICKERNELL, MILLARD, CIRESI AND ROWE, DECEMBER 8, 2021

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, DECEMBER 15, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Titles 45 (Legal Notices) and 65 (Public Officers) of
2 the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in legal advertising,
3 providing for redundant advertising on Internet by
4 municipalities POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS; and, in open meetings, <--
5 further providing for public notice.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Title 45 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
9 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

10 § 308.1. Redundant advertising on Internet by municipalities <--
11 POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS. <--

12 (a) General rule.--Notwithstanding any other law, in a case
13 where a municipality POLITICAL SUBDIVISION is required to <--
14 advertise in a newspaper of general circulation, the
15 municipality POLITICAL SUBDIVISION may publish a redundant <--
16 advertisement on the municipality's POLITICAL SUBDIVISION'S <--
17 publicly accessible Internet website in addition to the
18 newspaper advertisement.

19 (b) Effect of redundant advertisement.--In the event that

1 the newspaper advertisement fails to be timely published by the
2 newspaper, the advertisement shall be valid on the date that it
3 was redundantly advertised on the municipality's POLITICAL <--
4 SUBDIVISION'S publicly accessible Internet website.

5 (c) Proof of publication.--A municipality POLITICAL <--
6 SUBDIVISION that holds a meeting under a redundant advertisement
7 shall enter in the record a copy of the advertisement provided
8 to the newspaper and proof that the municipality POLITICAL <--
9 SUBDIVISION purchased the advertisement in a timely fashion.
10 Proof shall consist of a receipt or any other similar
11 communication showing the amount paid and the date of the
12 purchase.

13 (D) DEFINITION.--AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "REDUNDANT <--
14 ADVERTISEMENT" MEANS A COPY OF THE INFORMATION SUBMITTED TO A
15 PUBLICATION TO BE USED AS AN ADVERTISEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH
16 THE PROVISIONS OF LAW.

17 Section 2. Section 709 of Title 65 is amended by adding a
18 subsection to read:

19 § 709. Public notice.

20 * * *

21 (b.1) Redundant advertising on Internet by municipalities <--
22 POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS.--Notwithstanding any other provision of <--
23 this section, a political subdivision may satisfy the public
24 notice requirement by using a redundant advertisement in
25 accordance with 45 Pa.C.S. § 308.1 (relating to redundant
26 advertising on Internet by municipalities POLITICAL <--
27 SUBDIVISIONS). <--

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29 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.