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April 17, 2025

BILL NO. 2167

By: Pfeiffer and Wilk of the
House

and

Coleman of the Senate

An Act relating to fees; amending 28 O.S. 2021, Section 121, which relates to fees for certain publications; modifying fees; prescribing requirements; imposing duties upon newspaper with respect to orders of court; imposing duties on persons or entities with respect to timely submission for publication; prescribing procedures for publication subsequent to omissions; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 28 O.S. 2021, Section 121, is amended to read as follows:

Section 121. A. In all cases where publication of legal notices is required or allowed by law, the person or official desiring publication shall be required to pay:

1. For all matters other than tabular matter, ~~fourteen cents (\$0.14) per word for first insertion, and thirteen cents (\$0.13) per word for each subsequent insertion, with each separate group of~~

1 ~~numerals included in the matter to be counted as one word,~~
2 ~~regardless of the number of digits involved;~~

3 ~~2. Effective November 1, 2005, for all matters other than~~
4 ~~tabular matter, fifteen cents (\$0.15) twenty-two cents (\$0.22) per~~
5 ~~word for first insertion, and fourteen cents (\$0.14) twenty cents~~
6 ~~(\$0.20) per word for each subsequent insertion, with each separate~~
7 ~~group of letters or numerals included in the matter to be counted as~~
8 ~~one word, regardless of the number of digits involved. Elimination~~
9 ~~of space between words or numeric descriptions, or the use of~~
10 ~~hyphenation to combine words or numeric descriptions is prohibited;~~
11 ~~and~~

12 ~~3. 2. For all tabular matter, in not to exceed eight point~~
13 ~~type, including, but not limited to, graphics, maps, seals,~~
14 ~~signature blocks, forms, spreadsheets, lists of persons, firms, and~~
15 ~~corporations whose personal property taxes are delinquent and lists~~
16 ~~of lands and town lots upon which taxes are delinquent, seventy~~
17 ~~cents (\$0.70) One Dollar and ten cents (\$1.10) per line per~~
18 ~~newspaper column in width, for first insertion, and sixty-five cents~~
19 ~~(\$0.65) One Dollar (\$1.00) per line per newspaper column in width,~~
20 ~~for each subsequent insertion. A standard tabular line shall be a~~
21 ~~minimum of one and one-half (1.5) inches in width;~~

22 ~~3. A newspaper qualified to publish notices under the laws of~~
23 ~~this state has the authority to publish all notices in a format~~
24 ~~readable to a reasonable person. Type size used for notices shall~~

1 be no less than eight-point noncondensed type, with a maximum of
2 ten-point noncondensed type, unless a larger type size is requested
3 in writing by the person desiring the notice. Any notice submitted
4 to a newspaper which is unreadable or intended to be unreadable may
5 be rejected or typeset by the newspaper in a readable format;

6 4. Newspapers providing affidavits or proof of publication are
7 permitted to charge and collect a fee for a notarial act as defined
8 in Section 5 of Title 49 of the Oklahoma Statutes or Section 209 of
9 Title 49 of the Oklahoma Statutes as applicable;

10 5. For any notice placed in a newspaper, there shall be a
11 minimum charge of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) for such notice if
12 the total calculated cost of words and lines described in paragraphs
13 1 and 2 of this subsection is less than Twenty-five Dollars
14 (\$25.00);

15 6. When notice by publication in a newspaper is required by
16 law, order of court, or other means, the newspaper publishing the
17 notice shall, at no additional cost to the person or official
18 desiring the notice, cause the notice to be placed on the newspaper
19 website if the newspaper operates a website, in front of any paywall
20 or paid access to the website. Additionally, the newspaper shall
21 upload notices to a statewide website established and maintained as
22 a joint venture of a majority of Oklahoma newspapers qualified to
23 publish notices by the laws of this state. Posting of notices on
24 the newspaper website and statewide website shall be performed in a

1 timely manner but shall not invalidate the publication of a notice
2 otherwise valid when published in the newspaper. Temporary outages
3 or service interruptions prohibiting the posting or display of such
4 notice shall be considered harmless error and the proper legal
5 notice requirements shall be considered met if the notice published
6 in the newspaper otherwise complies with the requirements for
7 publication. Access to the statewide website shall be free to the
8 public; and

9 7. Any person or official required to publish a notice shall
10 submit the notice in writing or by electronic means by the deadline
11 established by the newspaper for such notices. No deadline shall be
12 set by the newspaper that is more than five (5) business days prior
13 to the date of publication, excluding the date of publication,
14 Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays in the State of Oklahoma.
15 Upon request, the newspaper shall confirm receipt of the notice and
16 notify the person or official in writing or by electronic means of
17 the dates of the issue or issues in which the notice shall appear.

18 If the newspaper fails to publish the notice in the issue
19 specified in the confirmation, the newspaper shall publish the
20 notice in a future issue specified by the person or official
21 desiring the notice at no charge. If the notice has multiple
22 insertions, only the first notice omitted by the newspaper shall be
23 required to run at no charge.
24

1 B. The county treasurer shall collect the cost of publication
2 of lists of lands and town lots sold for delinquent taxes at
3 original sale or resale from the individuals purchasing the lands
4 and town lots at the sale or resale involved, and shall deposit all
5 monies collected to the credit of the fund of the county which paid
6 the cost of publication. The publisher of the notice shall be paid
7 for the publication of the notice from the general fund of the
8 county or, if monies are not available in the general fund of the
9 county at the time of publication, from the "Resale-Property Fund"
10 of the county.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

12 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND INSURANCE
13 April 17, 2025 - DO PASS
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