

An Act

ENROLLED HOUSE
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.

SUBJECT: Fees

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

2. ~~Effective November 1, 2005, for all matters other than tabular matter, fifteen cents (\$0.15)~~ twenty-two cents (\$0.22) per word for first insertion, and ~~fourteen cents (\$0.14)~~ twenty cents (\$0.20) per word for each subsequent insertion, with each separate

group of letters or numerals included in the matter to be counted as one word, regardless of the number of digits involved. Elimination of space between words or numeric descriptions or the use of hyphenation to combine words or numeric descriptions is prohibited; and

~~3.~~ 2. For all tabular matter, in not to exceed eight-point type, including, but not limited to, graphics, maps, seals, signature blocks, forms, spreadsheets, lists of persons, firms, and corporations whose personal property taxes are delinquent and lists of lands and town lots upon which taxes are delinquent, seventy cents (\$0.70) One Dollar and ten cents (\$1.10) per line per newspaper column in width, for first insertion, and sixty-five cents (\$0.65) One Dollar (\$1.00) per line per newspaper column in width, for each subsequent insertion. A standard tabular line shall be a minimum of one and one-half (1 1/2) inches in width.

B. A newspaper qualified to publish notices under the laws of this state has the authority to publish all notices in a format readable to a reasonable person. Type size used for notices shall be no less than eight-point noncondensed type, with a maximum of ten-point noncondensed type, unless a larger type size is requested in writing by the person desiring the notice. Any notice submitted to a newspaper which is unreadable or intended to be unreadable may be rejected or typeset by the newspaper in a readable format.

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

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

E. When notice by publication in a newspaper is required by law, order of court, or other means, the newspaper publishing the notice shall, at no additional cost to the person or official desiring the notice, cause the notice to be placed on the newspaper website if the newspaper operates a website, in front of any paywall or paid access to the website. Additionally, the newspaper shall upload notices to a statewide website established and maintained as a joint venture of a majority of Oklahoma newspapers qualified to

publish notices by the laws of this state. Posting of notices on the newspaper website and statewide website shall be performed in a timely manner but shall not invalidate the publication of a notice otherwise valid when published in the newspaper. Temporary outages or service interruptions prohibiting the posting or display of such notice shall be considered harmless error and the proper legal notice requirements shall be considered met if the notice published in the newspaper otherwise complies with the requirements for publication. Access to the statewide website shall be free to the public.

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

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

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

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

Passed the House of Representatives the 25th day of March, 2025.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 28th day of April, 2025.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____