

1 SB569
2 117831-4
3 By Senator Dixon
4 RFD: Governmental Affairs
5 First Read: 25-MAR-10

2
3
4
5
6
7
8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, legal notices are
9 published in a newspaper or posted at a particular
10 location.

11 This bill would authorize any legal notice
12 published in a county or municipality to be
13 published instead on an Internet website maintained
14 by a newspaper.

15
16 A BILL
17 TO BE ENTITLED
18 AN ACT

19
20 To authorize the electronic publication of legal
21 notices.

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

23 Section 1. As used in this act, the following terms
24 shall have the following meanings:

25 (1) LEGAL NOTICE. A notice, advertisement,
26 publication, statement, or report or an abstract of a notice,

1 advertisement, publication, statement, or report required by
2 law or rule to be published in a newspaper.

3 (2) NEWSPAPER WEBSITE. An Internet website, or
4 successor technology, maintained by a newspaper qualified to
5 publish a legal notice, that the judge of probate or city
6 clerk, as the case may be, determines, based on usage,
7 familiarity in the community, and availability, will provide
8 adequate notice to the intended audience.

9 Section 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of
10 law, a legal notice required by law or rule to be published in
11 a county or within a municipality in the county may be
12 published on a newspaper website and is not required to be
13 published by a newspaper in print form. A legal notice
14 published by a county or a municipality must also be posted at
15 the principal office of the county or municipality.

16 Section 3. Notices shall remain available on the
17 newspaper website at least until the last posting date
18 required by law has expired.

19 Section 4. The newspaper website shall contain a
20 listing of all current legal notices with a search function
21 that provides public accessibility to such notices.

22 Section 5. All laws or parts of laws which conflict
23 with this act are repealed.

24 Section 6. This act shall become effective on the
25 first day of the third month following its passage and
26 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.