

JAN 23 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC NOTICE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that section 1-28.5,
2 Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires publication of government
3 notices in newspapers of general circulation. These
4 requirements were adopted before widespread electronic access
5 and no longer reflect the most efficient or accessible means of
6 informing the public.

7 The legislature further finds that posting notices on
8 official state and county websites provides greater
9 transparency, accessibility, and timeliness. Aligning public
10 notice requirements with the sunshine law under section 92-7(b),
11 Hawaii Revised Statutes, will modernize state communications and
12 ensure consistent public access to government information.

13 The purpose of this Act is to update the requirements for
14 publication of public notices by allowing electronic posting on
15 official government websites, while preserving traditional
16 publication options when necessary.



SECTION 2. Section 1-28.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"§1-28.5 ~~[Publication of]~~ Public notice. (a)

Notwithstanding any other statute, law, charter provision, ordinance, or rule to the contrary, whenever a government agency is required to give public notice or to publish notice, the notice shall be given ~~[only]~~ as follows:

(1) For statewide ~~[publication:]~~ notice:

(A) ~~[In a daily or weekly publication of statewide circulation:]~~ By posting the notice on an electronic calendar or website maintained by the State; or

(B) ~~[By]~~ In a daily or weekly publication of statewide circulation, or by publication in separate daily or weekly publications whose combined circulation is statewide; and

(2) For county-wide ~~[publication, by]~~ notice:

(A) By posting the notice on an electronic calendar or website maintained by the appropriate county; or



1 (B) By publication in a daily or weekly publication
2 in the affected county.

3 ~~[(b) For purposes of this section, the comptroller~~
4 ~~pursuant to chapter 103D shall determine a publication for all~~
5 ~~government agencies to enable the public to go to one source of~~
6 ~~publication for published public notice on each island.~~

7 ~~(c) Whenever a public notice is published in a newspaper~~
8 ~~or other publication described in subsection (a), proof of the~~
9 ~~publication shall be the affidavit of the printer, publisher,~~
10 ~~principal clerk, or business manager of the newspaper or other~~
11 ~~publication or of the designated agent of the group that~~
12 ~~published the notice.~~

13 ~~(d) This section shall not apply to notices required by~~
14 ~~chapters 103D, 103F, 127A, and 523A.~~

15 ~~(e) For purposes of publishing a proposed, revised, or~~
16 ~~final reapportionment plan pursuant to section 25-2, public~~
17 ~~notice shall be permitted in a short form; provided that each~~
18 ~~short form public notice shall include the following~~
19 ~~information:~~

20 ~~(1) Whether the reapportionment plan has been either~~
21 ~~proposed, revised, or adopted;~~



1 ~~(2) The online location to view the reapportionment plan;~~

2 ~~(3) A list of the location of each public office where the~~
3 ~~hard copies of the reapportionment plan and maps are~~
4 ~~available; and~~

5 ~~(4) The public hearing dates.]~~

6 (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, notice shall be
7 posted or published no less than six calendar days before the
8 required action, meeting, or effective date.

9 (c) Each agency shall maintain a physical copy of all
10 public notices in its office for public inspection during
11 regular business hours.

12 (d) Additional supplemental notice may also be given
13 through Hawaii FYI, the State's interactive computer system[+],
14 or other electronic means.

15 ~~[+f+]~~ (e) For purposes of this section, "government
16 agency" means each department, board, commission, or officer of
17 the State or any of its political subdivisions."

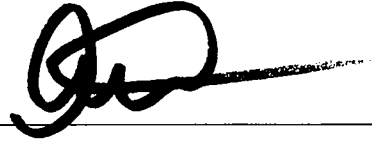
18 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

20 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



S.B. NO. 2929

INTRODUCED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. L. ...", written over a horizontal line.

S.B. NO. 2929

Report Title:

Public Notices; Electronic Posting

Description:

Allows government agencies to satisfy public notice requirements by posting notices on official state or county websites, while retaining publication as an option.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

