

Washington County News

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To: Sen. Julia Lynn, chair of the Senate Commerce Committee, and committee members

From: Dan Thalmann, Washington County News

Re: Opposition to HB 2454

While the internet has become commonplace in society, it is still not a place where you can easily find random information if you don't know exactly what to look for. If you want public notice to actually notify the public, you need to make sure those notices are in a standardized, findable place.

Newspapers have been a standardized source of information for centuries. Everyone is familiar with them.

Citizens know they can find official notices of all kinds in newspapers. I often see people who are not subscribers, purchase newspapers in our office or at a rack because they know a legal publication of interest to them should be in that edition. If you start allowing multiple locations for public notice, you're going to confuse the public.

If your goal is to preserve a very "public" notice, you should endeavor to preserve this effort for transparency by restricting public notice to newspapers only.

Respectfully,

Dan Thalmann, owner/publisher
Washington County News