

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 112

BY REPRESENTATIVE PUGH

OFFICIAL JOURNALS: Provides relative to the official journals of municipalities

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 43:145, relative to official journals; to provide relative to the
3 selection of official journals by municipalities; to provide relative to criteria for
4 newspapers; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 43:145 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §145. Municipalities ~~to select newspaper located within their boundaries;~~ official
8 journal; selection procedures

9 A. Municipal corporations ~~A municipality~~ shall select an official journal
10 published in an office physically located within ~~their~~ its municipal boundaries if a
11 ~~newspaper as defined in R.S. 43:140(3) is~~ two or more publications that meet the
12 requirements of R.S. 43:140(3) are published therein.

13 B. If no qualified newspaper is ~~fewer than two publications that meet the~~
14 requirements of R.S. 43:140(3) are published within the municipal boundaries, a
15 ~~newspaper published in the parish of the municipal corporation which meets the~~
16 ~~requirements of a newspaper as defined in R.S. 43:140(3) shall be selected~~
17 publication that meets the requirements of R.S. 43:140(3) and that is published in the
18 parish in which the municipality is situated shall be selected as the official journal.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 112 Original

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Abstract: Changes the criteria for a newspaper to be selected as a municipal official journal in certain circumstances.

Present law requires each parish, municipality, and school board, Orleans Parish excepted, to select a newspaper as its official journal. Defines "newspaper" as a publication that during each year of the five-year period prior to its selection meets all of the following criteria:

- (1) Has been published at regular intervals of not less than weekly.
- (2) Originated and was published for the purpose of delivering news of general public interest and is not devoted to the interests or entertainment of any one particular group or class.
- (3) In more than half of its issues, contained less than 75% advertising.
- (4) Maintained a general paid circulation to paying subscribers within the publication area required.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires each municipality to select an official journal that is published in an office physically located within its municipal boundaries if a newspaper as defined in present law is published within its boundaries. Additionally provides that if no qualified newspaper is published within the municipal boundaries, a newspaper published in the parish in which the municipality is located which meets the requirements of a present law must be selected.

Proposed law instead requires a municipality to select an official journal published in an office physically located within its municipal boundaries if two or more publications that meet the present law definition of "newspaper" are published within its boundaries. Provides that if fewer than two publications that meet the present law definition of "newspaper" are published within the municipal boundaries, a municipality must select, as its official journal, a publication that meets the present law definition of "newspaper" and is published in the parish in which the municipality is located.

(Amends R.S. 43:145)