

1.1 ..... moves to amend H.F. No. 2231 as follows:

1.2 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

1.3 "Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 331A.01, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

1.4 Subd. 7. **Public notice.** "Public notice" means every notice required or authorized by  
1.5 law or by order of a court to be published ~~by a qualified newspaper~~ in accordance with this  
1.6 chapter, and includes:

1.7 (1) every publication of laws, ordinances, resolutions, financial information, and  
1.8 proceedings intended to give notice in a particular area;

1.9 (2) every notice and certificate of election, facsimile ballot, notice of referendum, notice  
1.10 of public hearing before a governmental body, and notice of meetings of private and public  
1.11 bodies required by law;

1.12 (3) every summons, order, citation, notice of sale or other notice which is intended to  
1.13 inform a person that the person may or shall do an act or exercise a right within a designated  
1.14 period or upon or by a designated date; and

1.15 (4) this subdivision contains no independent requirement for the publication of any  
1.16 public notice.

1.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

1.18 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 331A.01, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

1.19 Subd. 12. **Publish.** "Publish" means dissemination in the print edition of a qualified  
1.20 newspaper, and in the e-edition of the qualified newspaper if applicable, or publication on  
1.21 a political subdivision's website.

1.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.1 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 331A.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to  
2.2 read:

2.3 Subd. 15. **Website.** "Website" means a specific, addressable location provided on a  
2.4 server connected to the Internet and hosting World Wide Web pages and other files that are  
2.5 generally accessible on the Internet all or most of the day.

2.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.7 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 331A.03, is amended to read:

2.8 **331A.03 WHERE NOTICE PUBLISHED.**

2.9 Subdivision 1. **Generally.** Except as provided in subdivision 2, a public notice shall be  
2.10 published in a qualified newspaper, ~~and~~ or on the political subdivision's website in accordance  
2.11 with section 331A.12. Except as otherwise provided by law, publication in a qualified  
2.12 newspaper must be made in one that is likely to give notice in the affected area or to whom  
2.13 it is directed. When a statute or other law requires publication in a newspaper located in a  
2.14 designated political subdivision or area and no qualified newspaper is located there,  
2.15 publication shall be made in a qualified newspaper likely to give notice unless the particular  
2.16 statute or law expressly provides otherwise, or publication may be made on the political  
2.17 subdivision's website in accordance with section 331A.12. If no qualified newspaper exists,  
2.18 then publication ~~is not required~~ must be made on the political subdivision's website or on  
2.19 the Minnesota Newspaper Association's statewide public notice website, if the political  
2.20 subdivision does not have a website.

2.21 Subd. 2. **Exception; certain cities of the fourth class.** A public notice required to be  
2.22 published by a statutory or home rule charter city of the fourth class located in the  
2.23 metropolitan area defined in section 473.121, subdivision 2, is not required to be published  
2.24 in a qualified newspaper if there is no qualified nondaily newspaper of general circulation  
2.25 in the city, provided the notice is printed in a newsletter or similar printed means of giving  
2.26 notice that is prepared by the city and either mailed or delivered to each household in the  
2.27 city, or the notice is published on the city's website in accordance with section 331A.12.

2.28 Subd. 3. **Alternative dissemination of bids and requests.** (a) For a political subdivision  
2.29 that designates publication in a qualified newspaper as its means of dissemination, in addition  
2.30 to or as an alternative to the statutory requirements for newspaper publication, a political  
2.31 subdivision may disseminate solicitations of bids, requests for information, and requests  
2.32 for proposals by a means authorized in paragraph (b), if the political subdivision  
2.33 simultaneously publishes, either as part of the minutes of a regular meeting of the governing

3.1 body or in a separate notice published in the official newspaper, a description of all  
3.2 solicitations or requests so disseminated, along with the means by which the dissemination  
3.3 occurred.

3.4 (b) A political subdivision may use its website or recognized industry trade journals as  
3.5 an alternative means of dissemination. A dissemination by alternative means must be in  
3.6 substantially the same format and for the same period of time as a publication required by  
3.7 this chapter.

3.8 (c) For the first six months after a political subdivision designates an alternative means  
3.9 of dissemination under this subdivision, it must continue to publish solicitation of bids,  
3.10 requests for information, and requests for proposals in the official newspaper in addition to  
3.11 the alternative method. The publication in the official newspaper must indicate where to  
3.12 find the designated alternative method. After the expiration of the six-month period, an  
3.13 alternative means of dissemination satisfies the publication requirements of law for  
3.14 solicitation of bids, requests for information, and requests for proposals.

3.15 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.16 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 331A.04, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

3.17 Subdivision 1. **Priority.** (a) The governing body of a political subdivision, when  
3.18 authorized or required by statute or charter to designate a newspaper for publication of its  
3.19 public notices, shall designate a qualified newspaper in the following priority.

3.20 (b) This section does not apply to a political subdivision that designates website  
3.21 publication under section 331A.12 as its means of dissemination.

3.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.23 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 331A.06, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

3.24 Subdivision 1. **Maximum rate.** The maximum rate charged for publication of a public  
3.25 notice in a qualified newspaper shall not exceed the lowest classified rate paid by commercial  
3.26 users for comparable space in the newspapers in which the public notice appears, and shall  
3.27 include all cash discounts, multiple insertion discounts, and similar benefits extended to the  
3.28 newspaper's regular customers.

3.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

4.1 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 331A.08, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

4.2 Subd. 3. **Publication of proceedings.** Notwithstanding other statutory publication  
4.3 requirements, if the governing body of a political subdivision conducts regular meetings  
4.4 not more than once every 30 days, the governing body need not publish the meeting minutes  
4.5 in the official newspaper or on the political subdivision's website until ten days after the  
4.6 proceedings have been approved by the governing body.

4.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

4.8 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 331A.09, is amended to read:

4.9 **331A.09 PUBLICATION ON SUNDAY OR HOLIDAY.**

4.10 Any public notice may lawfully be printed in a newspaper or on a political subdivision's  
4.11 website published on a Sunday or holiday. Any notice that, by law or the order of any court,  
4.12 is required to be published for any given number of weeks may be published on any day in  
4.13 each week of the term, and if published as many weeks and as many times in each week as  
4.14 required by the law or order, it is a lawful publication.

4.15 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

4.16 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 331A.10, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

4.17 Subd. 2. **Discontinuance.** When a newspaper ceases to be published before the  
4.18 publication of a public notice is commenced, or when commenced ceases before the  
4.19 publication is completed, the order for publication, when one is required in the first instance,  
4.20 may be amended by order of the court or judge, to designate another newspaper or to require  
4.21 publication on the political subdivision's website in accordance with section 331A.12, as  
4.22 may be necessary. If no order is required in the first instance, publication may be made or  
4.23 completed in any other qualified newspaper or on the political subdivision's website in  
4.24 accordance with section 331A.12. Any time during which the notice is published in the first  
4.25 newspaper shall be calculated as a part of the time required for the publication, proof of  
4.26 which may be made by affidavit of any person acquainted with the facts.

4.27 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

4.28 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 331A.11, is amended to read:

4.29 **331A.11 APPLICATION.**

4.30 Subdivision 1. **Application.** Sections 331A.01 to ~~331A.11~~ 331A.12 apply to all political  
4.31 subdivisions of the state.

5.1 Subd. 2. **Notices excluded.** Sections 331A.01 to ~~331A.11~~ 331A.12 do not apply to  
 5.2 notices required by private agreements or local laws to be published ~~in newspapers~~, unless  
 5.3 they refer expressly or by implication to this chapter or to particular provisions of this  
 5.4 chapter.

5.5 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

5.6 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 331A.12, is amended to read:

5.7 **331A.12 WEBSITE ADVERTISEMENT FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECT**  
 5.8 **BIDS PUBLICATION ALTERNATIVE.**

5.9 ~~Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) The terms defined in this subdivision and section 331A.01~~  
 5.10 ~~apply to this section.~~

5.11 ~~(b) "Website" means a specific, addressable location provided on a server connected to~~  
 5.12 ~~the Internet and hosting World Wide Web pages and other files that are generally accessible~~  
 5.13 ~~on the Internet all or most of the day.~~

5.14 Subd. 2. **Designation.** At the meeting of the governing body of a political subdivision  
 5.15 at which the governing body designates its ~~official newspaper for the year~~ means of  
 5.16 dissemination, the governing body may designate ~~in the same manner~~ publication of  
 5.17 ~~transportation projects~~ public notices on the political subdivision's website. Notwithstanding  
 5.18 any law to the contrary, publication on the website may be used in place of or in addition  
 5.19 to any other required form of publication. Each year after designating publication on the  
 5.20 website for ~~transportation projects~~ public notices, the political subdivision must publish, ~~in~~  
 5.21 ~~a qualified newspaper in the jurisdiction~~ on the Minnesota Newspaper Association's statewide  
 5.22 public notice website and on the political subdivision's website, notice that the political  
 5.23 subdivision will ~~publish any advertisements for bids on its website~~ only publish public  
 5.24 notices on its website.

5.25 Subd. 3. **Form, time for publication same.** A political subdivision that publishes public  
 5.26 notices on its website under this section must post the information in substantially the same  
 5.27 format and for the same period of time as required for publication in an official newspaper  
 5.28 or other print publication.

5.29 Subd. 4. **Record retention.** A political subdivision that publishes notice on its website  
 5.30 under this section must ensure that a permanent record of publication is maintained in a  
 5.31 form accessible by the public.

5.32 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment."

6.1 Amend the title accordingly