



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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DEFINE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

House Bill 4724
Sponsor: Rep. Dianne Byrum

House Bill 4725
Sponsor: Rep. Dale Shugars

Committee: Local Government

Complete to 5-28-93

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILLS 4724 AND 4725 AS INTRODUCED 5-6-93

Public Act 247 of 1963 and the Revised Judicature Act specify that for a publication to be used for posting certain notices that, by law or under a judicial proceeding, must be published in a "newspaper," it must meet various criteria (i.e., be published in English,, have a bona fide list of paying subscribers, and the like). The bills would amend the acts to revise these criteria.

Under Public Act 247 of 1963 (MCL 691.1051), a newspaper currently must, among other things, 1) have a bona fide list of paying subscribers or have been published at least weekly in the same community without interruption for at least two years, 2) have been published and in general circulation at not less than weekly intervals without interruption for at least one year in the jurisdiction (county, township, village, etc.) where the notice is required to be published, and 3) annually average at least 25 percent "news and editorial content" (meaning any printed matter other than advertising) per issue. House Bill 4724 would revise these criteria to say that a newspaper would have to:

- * have a bona fide list of paying subscribers or be published without interruption for at least two years; and
- * have been published and in general circulation without interruption for at least two years in the jurisdiction where the notice is required.

The bill would delete the requirement that a newspaper would have to annually average at least 25 percent news and editorial content per issue.

House Bill 4725 would amend the Revised Judicature Act (MCL 600.1461) to specify that a newspaper would have to:

- * have a bona fide list of paying subscribers or have been published at not less than weekly intervals in the same community without interruption for at least two years; and
- * have been established, published and circulated at not less than biweekly intervals without interruption for at least one year in the county where the court was situated.

The requirement that a newspaper must annually average at least 25 percent news and editorial content per issue would be deleted.

House Bills 4724 & 4725 (5-28-93)