



Publishing The Clarion, Hillsboro Free Press, Newton Now, and The Herington Times newspapers in Kansas and books nationwide
Joey Young: 316-712-2125 E-mail: joey@kspublishingventures.com
Office's in Hillsboro, Newton, Andale, and Herington, KS

I was saddened and frustrated to see legislation proposed to take legal notices away from an independent third party—newspapers—and give government an option to publish legal notices on websites they own. This topic has come up multiple times since I bought my first newspaper, and I am not sure why a few legislators continue to have an axe to grind with us over this.

The legislation saves few dollars for government and is a clear push away from transparency, which is the main issue for those of us who care deeply about government continuing to best serve our communities.

Trying to navigate our local government websites is often a mess—they're often poorly designed and minimally updated. Additionally, it's likely that government entities will put off posting notices or merely put what they want out, as this won't be one of the most important items on their list. Electronic posting also inhibits a permanent record from being formed, as the Internet is infinitely customizable. Accountability comes with print. Having an independent third party posting notices in print insures they are not tampered with, go out in a timely manner, and are available to most of the community.

As a 32-year-old newspaper publisher of four weekly newspapers, I can assure you that journalism and newspapers will be around for the long-haul and are the most effective way to get information out, even in today's technology laced world.

I strongly urge you to vote no on the legislation and move on from this topic once and for all.

Sincerely,
Joey Young

Kansas Publishing Ventures Majority Owner