

# MODERNIZING PUBLIC NOTICES

## SB2450 (POWERS) / HB2114 (CRAWFORD)

### What You Need to Know

- Tennessee law safeguards the public's right to know about significant government actions, court proceedings, or other official matters by requiring all public notices be **printed** in a newspaper of general circulation.
- Online publication is a secondary option that may occur only after the notice has first appeared in print.
- Newspapers usually charge to print notices or may place notices behind a paywall, costing taxpayers money.

### What's the Problem?

- With printed newspaper readership in steep decline and the overwhelming shift to obtaining information online, requiring print notices is outdated, limiting timely access and digital transparency.

### What's the Solution?

- The proposed legislation allows public notices to be published in a **newspaper**, on an **official government website**, or on an **approved third-party platform** that meets transparency and access standards.
- Notices published online are searchable, always available, and archivable, strengthening accountability and aligning public notice practices with how Tennesseans obtain information every day.
- The proposed legislation eliminates unnecessary taxpayer costs, as well as delays tied to print schedules, enabling faster and more efficient government processes.

**SUPPORT SB2450 / HB 2114** to modernize public notice law, giving governments flexibility in how they share notices, citizens flexibility in how they access notices, and eliminating costs for citizens to view.