

# MODERNIZING PUBLIC NOTICES

## PROPOSED LEGISLATION

### What You Need to Know

- The bill will modernize public notice law and give local governments flexibility in how they share notices.
- The bill will allow notices to be published in a newspaper, on an official government website, or on approved third-party platforms.
- The bill will enable citizens to access notices the same way they access information every day.

### What's the Problem?

- Tennessee law requires that all government actions or legal matters be announced by public notice in a newspaper of general circulation, with online publication as a secondary option only after the notice has first appeared in print.
- With printed newspaper readership in steep decline and the overwhelming shift to obtaining information online, requiring print notices is outdated and limits timely access.
- Newspapers often charge to print notices, costing taxpayer money.
- Local governments need flexibility in how they share public notices, either using newspapers or posting notices on their own official websites or on third-party platforms that meet transparency and access standards.

### What's the Solution?

- **SUPPORT** this proposed legislation to modernize public notice law and enable citizens to access notices in a newspaper or online.

