

By: Phillips

H.B. No. 2898

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the publication of notice in a newspaper by certain governmental entities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 2051.044, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) This section does not apply to notices to which Section 2051.0441 apply.

SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 2051, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 2051.0441 to read as follows:

Sec. 2051.0441. ALTERNATIVE NEWSPAPER FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE. (a) In a county with a population of at least 30,000 and not more than 45,000, the newspaper in which a notice is published must:

(1) devote not less than 20 percent of its total column lineage to general interest items;

(2) be published at least once each week;

(3) be entered as second-class postal matter in the county where published or have a mailed circulation of at least 51 percent of the homes within the county; and

(4) have been published regularly and continuously for at least 12 months before the governmental entity or representative publishes notice.

(b) A weekly newspaper has been published regularly and

1 continuously under Subsection (a) if the newspaper omits not more  
2 than two issues in the 12-month period.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.