

By: E. Johnson of Dallas

H.B. No. 4210

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to publication of notice requirements for certain governmental entities and representatives.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2051.044(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The newspaper in which a notice is published must:

(1) devote not less than 25 percent of its total column lineage to general interest items;

(2) be published at least once each week; and

(3) ~~[be entered as second-class postal matter in the county where published; and~~

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

SECTION 2. Section 2051.049, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2051.049. SELECTION OF NEWSPAPER. (a) The governmental entity or representative required to publish a notice in a newspaper shall select, in accordance with this subchapter, one or more newspapers to publish the notice.

(b) To encourage the development of minority-owned businesses in this state, a governmental entity or representative that publishes a notice in a newspaper under Section 2051.044 shall

1 consider selecting a newspaper that is a minority-owned business
2 if:

3 (1) a substantial percentage of the individuals
4 residing in the area where the notice is to be published are members
5 of one or more minority groups; and

6 (2) a newspaper in the area where the notice is to be
7 published:

8 (A) is a minority-owned business; and

9 (B) is widely circulated in that area.

10 (c) In this section, "minority-owned business" and
11 "minority group" have the meanings assigned by Section 161.131(c),
12 Natural Resources Code.

13 SECTION 3. Section 2051.044(a), Government Code, as amended
14 by this Act, and Section 2051.049(b), Government Code, as added by
15 this Act, apply only to a publication of notice first published on
16 or after the effective date of this Act. A publication of notice
17 published before the effective date of this Act is governed by the
18 law in effect at the time of the publication, and the former law is
19 continued in effect for that purpose.

20 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.