

Open a better checking account today.



America's Most Convenient Bank®
Member FDIC | TD Bank N.A.

[Login](#) | [Manage Account](#) | [Mobile](#) | [E-Edition](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Subscription](#) | [Reader Rewards](#)

Web Search powered by YAHOO! SEARCH

[News](#) | [Sports](#) | [Business](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Lifestyles](#) | [Media](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Homes](#) | [Cars](#) | [Classified](#)

[Today](#) | [Local](#) | [YourNews](#) | [State](#) | [Traffic](#) | [Weather](#) | [Obituaries](#) | [Databases](#) | [Politics](#) | [Columnists](#) | [Smoky Mountains](#) | [Archives](#)

Win Tickets! Enter to win tickets to Esperanza Spalding's Knoxville concert >>

Senate OKs requirement that newspapers post notices online

31-1 passage comes during 'Sunshine Week'

By [Tom Humphrey](#)

Posted March 14, 2013 at 7:43 p.m.

[Discuss](#) | [Print](#) | [A](#) | [A](#) | [A](#) | [f](#) | [t](#) | [e](#)

Humphrey on the Hill

[Tom Humphrey's blog on politics and legislative news in Tennessee](#)

NASHVILLE — The Senate has approved, 31-1, legislation that will require newspapers to post public notices on their websites as well as in their print editions with no extra charge, starting in April 2014.

The bill (Senate Bill 461) faces a House floor vote next week after clearing committees without a dissenting vote.

It is sponsored by Sen. Ken Yager, R-Harriman, and Rep. Ryan Haynes, R-Knoxville, and supported by the Tennessee Press Association.

In Senate floor debate, Yager noted there has been debate in the past about having public notices posted online on government websites rather than in newspapers with valid arguments on both sides. He said the legislation “tries to take the best of both and combine them into a bill that will preserve independence by allowing someone other than the government to disseminate notices.”

Besides requiring the notices be posted on newspaper websites, the measure also requires each newspaper provide a link to a website where such notices from newspapers statewide will be available. The Tennessee Press Association anticipates operating such a website.

The sole vote against the bill came from Sen. Stacey Campfield, R-Knoxville, who said he views the measure as “excluding everyone else who is not a Tennessee newspaper” from publishing public notices.

“We’re trying to create a monopoly for one group, newspapers. I cannot support something that does that,” said Campfield.



Most Popular

Viewed | Commented | Emailed

Brianna Rader and Jacob Clark: Fear necessitates discussions on sex
Published 4/5/2013 at 9:00 p.m. 78 comments

Laws, rumors have ammo flying off store shelves
Updated 4/5/2013 at 12:54 p.m. 156 comments

Knox DA looking into alleged beating case involving KPD officers
Published 4/5/2013 at 5:31 a.m. 103 comments

County cites Loudon property owner for junk, vehicles, bathtub after neighbors complain
Published 4/6/2013 at 5:01 a.m. 13 comments

South Knoxville raid yields pills, gun, arrest

Published 4/5/2013 at 10:04 a.m. 47 comments

Three other senators who in the past have advocated publication of the notices on government websites — Republicans Sens. Brian Kelsey of Germantown, Mike Bell of Riceville and Bo Watson of Hixson — said they supported the bill as “a step in the right direction” with online publication. Kelsey and Bell both said they hope future legislation will move away from newspaper publication to save taxpayer money.

In response to a question from Bell, Yager said the April 2014 effective date was chosen to give newspapers that do not now have websites an opportunity to start them.

Yager noted that Senate passage of the bill comes during “Sunshine Week,” an annual promotion of the need for open and transparent government.

He said the timing is appropriate because voting for the bill will “affirm our belief in the public’s right to know what’s going on in their government.”

© 2013, Knoxville News Sentinel Co.

Want to use this article? Click here for options!

© 2013 Knoxville News Sentinel. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

Photo Galleries



Photos from Ye Olde Steak House



Hike of the Month: Cumberland Gap...



Community photos from our readers...

Weather

Currently 36-Hour Your Photos



Currently 68° A Few Clouds Wind: W 10mph

Today 71° 45°

More Weather »

Discuss Print



Recommend Send Sign Up to see what your friends recommend.

More from KnoxNews

- Man found shot to death, not believed to be random
- Records: Teacher in settlement case subject of several complaints
- Dad: W.Va. sheriff slaying suspect mentally 'off'
- Man convicted in young daughter's death now a shooting victim
- Blocking theories like opinions - everyone has 1

Also in Political News

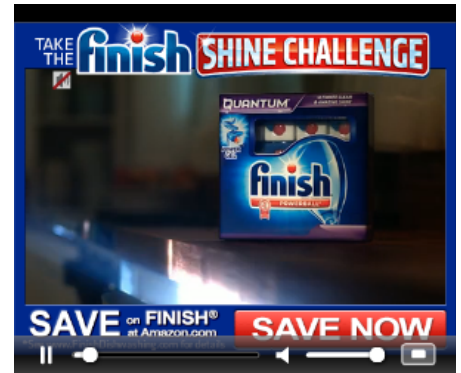
More

- POLITICAL HAPPENINGS
- Corker, Warner honored for bipartisanship
- Legislative notebook: Campfield delays welfare-school performance bill

From around the web

Sponsored Content

- 10 Things You Should Never Buy at Garage Sales (Reader's Digest)
- 5 Questions You Should Never Ask in a Job Interview (Monster)
- Tree Falls Over Property Line: Who Pays? Who Picks Up the Pieces? (HouseLogic)
- Ranking the 10 Most Overrated Coaches in College Basketball (Bleacher Report)
- Westboro Baptist Church Gets a Taste of Its Own Medicine (Take Part)



Business Directory

Search Browse

Business: e.g. salon

Location: e.g. Knoxville, TN

Search

Powered by Local.com

[What's this?]

Comments » 2

Hide

March 14, 2013
10:09 p.m.

CasualObserver writes:

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

This is good. The proposal a couple of years ago to just let government offices post their notices on their own websites without any way to monitor their compliance was dangerous. We need a second party involved to make sure the details that are supposed to be published in notices aren't covered up. Some politicians scream about the cost of issuing public notices, but the cost of the scandals that can occur when the public is left in the dark can run into the millions. Politicians and interest groups have learned that if they want to get the public on their side on an issue these days, they just have to say something costs money. It's funny, though, how they can always find the money to do the things they want done, such as hire a "public information" staff to churn out flattering press releases.

There is an organization called Tennessee Coalition for Open Government that has a lot of useful information about public access to government information. If you're ever involved with trying to get the government to do something you will appreciate the work this organization does:

<http://www.tcog.info/>

March 14, 2013
11:05 p.m.

Jonathan writes:

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

Once again, Campfield shows that he's a lunatic. Nothing is stopping anyone else from posting notices online.

Share your thoughts

Comments are the sole responsibility of the person posting them. You agree not to post comments that are off topic, defamatory, obscene, abusive, threatening or an invasion of privacy. Violators may be banned. [Click here for our full user agreement.](#)

Username * Don't have an account? [Sign up for a new account](#)

Password * Can't remember? [Reset your password](#)

Comment

[Preview comment](#)

Comments can be shared on Facebook and Yahoo!. Add both options by [connecting your profiles.](#)

Sponsored Results

Man Cheats Credit Score

1 simple trick & my credit score jumped 217 pts.
www.thecreditsolutionprogram.com

Mortgage Rates Hit 2.50%

White House Program Cuts Up to \$1k off Monthly Payments!
www.SeeRefinanceRates.com

1 Tip to Flat Stomach

This Interesting Article Shows How Coffee Bean Fights
www.ConsumerSavingToday.com

Features



Ask The Experts
Occupational Health and Safety
Ask me a question.



On Facebook
Like our photos? Consider liking our photo page on Facebook



Kindle app
News Sentinel tablet app now available for Amazon Kindle Fire.

Useful Links: [Find Knoxville jobs](#) [Jobs at the Knoxville News Sentinel](#) [Archives](#)
[Subscriber Services](#) [About Us](#) | [Contact us](#)

On the Web: [Today's A1](#) [Photo reprints](#) [Lottery results](#) [Knoxville databases](#) [Obituaries](#) [RSS](#)

Online Exclusives: [Crossword](#) [Sudoku](#) [Blogs](#) [Text alerts](#) [Market Square Web cam](#) [TV guide](#)

Advertising help: [Place an ad](#) [Search display ads](#) [Advertising online](#) [Advertising in print](#)

Special Features: [Newspapers in Education](#) [Pet of the Week](#) [Local Business Profiles](#)

Other products: [Home Market Now magazine](#) [Auto Seller magazine](#)

Business Directory: [See directory links](#)

Business Directory

Business: e.g. salon

Location: e.g. Knoxville, TN

Powered by [Local.com](#)



Scripps Interactive Newspapers Group
2013 The E.W. Scripps Co.
[Privacy Policy](#) | [User Agreement](#) | [About Our Ads](#)

[More news from our local partners »](#)