

House Study Bill 247 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON BLOOMINGDALE)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to proofs of publication of public notices.
- 2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 618.11, Code 2025, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **618.11 Fees for publication and proof of publication.**

4 1. a. The compensation, when not otherwise fixed, for the
5 publication in a newspaper of any notice, order, citation, or
6 other publication required or allowed by law shall be at a
7 rate of thirty-four cents for one insertion and twenty-three
8 cents for each subsequent insertion for each line of eight
9 point type two inches in length, or its equivalent. Beginning
10 June 1, 2001, and each June 1 thereafter, the director of the
11 department of administrative services shall calculate a new rate
12 for the following fiscal year as prescribed in this subsection
13 paragraph, and shall publish this rate as a notice in the Iowa
14 administrative bulletin prior to the first day of the following
15 calendar month. The new rate shall be effective on the first day
16 of the calendar month following its publication. The rate shall
17 be calculated by applying the percentage change in the consumer
18 price index for all urban consumers for the last available
19 twelve-month period published in the federal register by the
20 federal department of labor, bureau of labor statistics, to the
21 existing rate as an increase or decrease in the rate rounded to
22 the nearest one-tenth of a cent. The calculation and publication
23 of the rate by the director of the department of administrative
24 services shall be exempt from the provisions of chapters 17A and
25 25B.

26 b. Except as otherwise required, "proof of publication"
27 means a document that includes the published document, date of
28 publication, and the name of the newspaper of publication or a
29 statement that the document was posted on the statewide public
30 notice internet site as provided in section 618.8.

31 2. A newspaper shall not charge a fee to a government body,
32 as defined in section 22.1, for proof of publication of a public
33 notice. A newspaper may charge a fee, not to exceed the actual
34 costs of preparation, for a proof of publication that includes
35 additional elements, including a notarized affidavit requested by

1 a government body, as defined in section 22.1.

2 3. A proof of publication shall constitute an admissible
3 writing or record as provided in section 622.28.

4 EXPLANATION

5 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
6 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

7 This bill relates to proofs of publication of public notices.
8 The bill defines "proof of publication" as a document that
9 includes the published document, date of publication, and the
10 name of the newspaper of publication or a statement that the
11 document was posted on the statewide public notice internet site,
12 as applicable. The bill allows a newspaper to charge a fee,
13 not to exceed the actual costs of preparation, for a proof
14 of publication that includes additional elements, including a
15 notarized affidavit requested by a government body. The bill
16 categorizes a proof of publication as an admissible writing or
17 record under the rules of evidence.