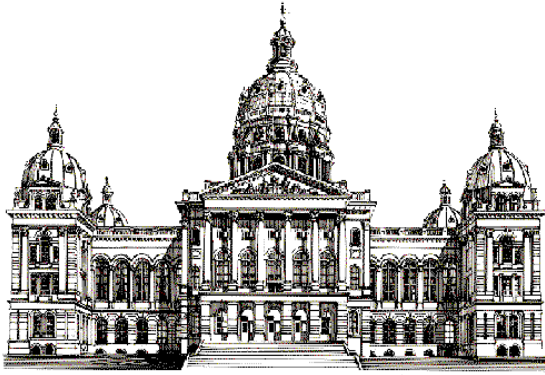




The Senate
State of Iowa

W. Charles Smithson

Secretary of the Senate

STATEHOUSE

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Phone: (515) 725-4118

Fax: (515) 242-6108

E-mail: charlie.smithson@legis.iowa.gov

July 7, 2026

The Honorable Paul Pate
Secretary of State
Via Email

Re: Filing of Constitutional Amendment Certificates of Newspaper Selections

Dear Secretary Pate:

Please find the attached "Certificate of Newspapers for Constitutional Amendment Publication" concerning SJR 9. These documents are required to be filed with your office pursuant to Iowa Code § 49A.3 as part of the "proof of publication" process involving proposed amendments to the Iowa Constitution.

Sincerely,

/s/ W. Charles Smithson

W. Charles Smithson
Secretary of the Senate

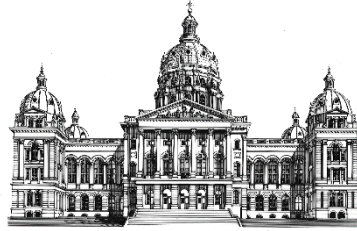
Iowa General Assembly

Meghan Nelson

Chief Clerk of the House
Statehouse

Des Moines, Iowa 50319
(515) 281-5383

Meghan.Nelson@legis.iowa.gov

**W. Charles Smithson**

Secretary of the Iowa Senate
Statehouse

Des Moines, Iowa 50319
(515) 725-4118

Charlie.Smithson@legis.iowa.gov

Certificate of Newspapers for Constitutional Amendment Publication

1. In April of 2025, Senate Joint Resolution 9 proposing an amendment to the Iowa Constitution “right of an accused to confront children and other witnesses” passed the 91st General Assembly:
<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ba=SJR9&ga=91>
2. The passage of SJR 9 triggered the process set out in Iowa Code ch. 49A concerning the publication of the proposed amendment prior to it being considered by the 92nd General Assembly.
3. As part of the publication process, Iowa Code § 49A.1 requires the General Assembly to publish the proposed amendment in “two newspapers of general circulation in each congressional district in the state...” Iowa Const. art. X, § 1 requires this publication for three months prior to the 2026 General Election.
4. Iowa Code § 49A.3(1)(a) requires, in part, that the General Assembly file a “certificate by the general assembly of the selection of such newspapers.” This document serves as said “certificate.”¹
5. The newspapers selected for the publication are attached hereto as Exhibit A.
6. Although the General Assembly is only required to publish the proposed amendment for three months, the decision was made from an abundance of caution to publish the amendment for four months.

Sincerely,

Meghan Nelson
Chief Clerk
Iowa House of Representatives

W. Charles Smithson
Secretary of Senate
Iowa Senate

¹ Iowa Code § 49A.3(1)(a) also requires the filing of “affidavits of the publishers of the newspapers designated by the general assembly for publication...” These affidavits will be filed under separate cover.

EXHIBIT A

DIST.	PAPER:	CITY:	DATES PUBLISHED 2026:
1	Iowa City-Press Citizen	Iowa City	July 20, Aug 17, Sept 14, Oct 5
1	Quad City Times	Davenport	July 14, Aug 12, Sept 8, Oct 7
2	Telegraph Herald	Dubuque	July 15, Aug 5, Sept 2, Oct 7
2	Globe Gazette	Mason City	July 14, Aug 11, Sept 8, Oct 6
3	Des Moines Register	Des Moines	July 15, Aug 12, Sept 16, Oct 6
3	Ottumwa Courier	Ottumwa	July 14, Aug 11, Sept 15, Oct 6
4	Daily Nonpareil	Council Bluffs	July 14, Aug 11, Sept 15, Oct
4	Sioux City Journal	Sioux City	July 14, Aug 11, Sept 15, Oct 6