

HB 764 -- NEWSPAPERS (Andrews)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Emerging Issues

Currently, in order to qualify as a newspaper legally acceptable to run public notices and advertisements, a newspaper must have been published regularly for a period of three years; or must be the successor newspaper to a defunct newspaper and begin publication no later than 30 days after the termination of the prior newspaper.

This bill reduces the time period of regular publication from three years to one year, and increases the time period from 30 days to 90 days within which a successor newspaper must begin publication. The bill also allows a newspaper that has been purchased or newly established by another newspaper that satisfies these conditions to qualify.

Currently, notice to sell defaulted property must be made in the classified section of a newspaper in the jurisdiction. This bill retains that notice, but allows the seller to advertise in any other commercially reasonable manner. The advertisement is commercially reasonable if at least three independent bidders arrive at the sale.

This bill is similar to HB 2567 (2020).