



## 2019 SENATE BILL 147

April 4, 2019 - Introduced by Senators JACQUE, COWLES, OLSEN and NASS, cosponsored by Representatives KITCHENS, DUCHOW, KULP, LOUDENBECK, MURPHY, MURSAU, NOVAK, ROHRKASTE, SKOWRONSKI, SPREITZER, STEFFEN, SUBECK and TUSLER. Referred to Committee on Government Operations, Technology and Consumer Protection.

1     **AN ACT to amend** 985.01 (3r) and 985.12 (1) of the statutes; **relating to:**  
2             eligibility of Washington Island Observer newspaper to receive compensation  
3             for publication of legal notices and the content of affidavits of printing filed as  
4             evidence of publication.

---

### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

This bill incorporates the Washington Island Observer newspaper into the definition of newspaper for purposes of eligibility to receive compensation for publishing legal notices. Under current law, a newspaper is defined, with certain exceptions, as a publication that is published at regular intervals and at least once a week, containing, on average, 25 percent news content per issue, including reports of happenings of recent occurrence of a varied character, such as political, social, moral and religious subjects, designed to inform the general reader. In addition to meeting other criteria, a publication must be a newspaper as defined in the statutes in order to qualify to receive compensation for publication of legal notices. This bill incorporates the Washington Island Observer, published at least two times a month, into the definition of newspaper.

Also, current law provides that in order for an affidavit of printing to be received as presumptive evidence of publication of a legal notice and of the facts stated in the affidavit, the affidavit must include a copy of the legal notice clipped from the newspaper and must specify the date of each insertion and the paper in which it was published. This bill specifies that the copy of the notice included with the affidavit

