

**From:** Curt Witynski [<mailto:witynski@lwm-info.org>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 04, 2016 3:05 PM

**To:** Grosz, Scott <[Scott.Grosz@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Scott.Grosz@legis.wisconsin.gov)>

**Subject:** Concern over Narrowness of Legislative Options listed in Memo 2 to Study Committee on

To: Scott Grosz, Principal Attorney, Wisconsin Legislative Council Study Committee on  
Publication of Government Documents and Legal Notices

From: Curt Witynski, Assistant Director, League of Wisconsin Municipalities

Date: October 3, 2016

Re: Concern over Narrowness of Legislative Options listed in Memo 2 to Study Committee  
on Publication of Government Documents and Legal Notices

I'm writing to express my concern and disappointment over the narrowness of the legislative recommendations you list for the committee to consider in your Memo No. 2, dated October 3. The list focuses exclusively on making changes to an extremely narrow area of the law that would affect only those communities that already have the option of electronically publishing certain legal notices. Only towns and villages may, in lieu of newspaper publication, post a legal notice in one public place and also on their web site. All 190 cities in the state are precluded from using such an option. Under current law, cities must designate an official newspaper and publish legal notices in that newspaper.

In the Options section of the Permissive Electronic Publication portion of your memo you correctly note that "During the August 30, 2016 meeting, committee members suggested consideration of options to expand local government authority to substitute electronic posting for newspaper publication." You then list several questions about the scope of such options to provide discussion points for committee members. I would add the following question to your list, which gets at a more fundamental issue:

**Should the option of posting legal notices in one public place and on a municipality's web site in lieu of newspaper publication be extended to all municipalities, including all 190 cities in the state?**

Thanks for considering my comments. Please share this email with committee members. Thank you.

Curt Witynski,

Assistant Director

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