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**SENATE BILL 6240**

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**State of Washington****56th Legislature****2000 Regular Session****By** Senators Honeyford, Haugen and Gardner

Read first time 01/11/2000. Referred to Committee on State &amp; Local Government.

1       AN ACT Relating to legal newspapers; and amending RCW 65.16.020.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

3       **Sec. 1.** RCW 65.16.020 and 1961 c 279 s 1 are each amended to read  
4 as follows:5       For the purposes of this code, "newspaper" means a printed or  
6 Internet newspaper generally circulated via mail, carrier route, or  
7 electronically, or a combination of these, serving a city, county, or  
8 multicounty area, where the newspaper is produced at the time of  
9 application for approval. The newspaper shall hold a second class  
10 mailing permit, except for electronic newspapers, which are sent by  
11 digital transmission rather than postal mails.12      ~~((The qualifications of))~~ A legal newspaper ~~((are that such~~  
13 ~~newspaper))~~ shall have been published or portions uploaded regularly,  
14 and archival records updated, at least once a week, in the English  
15 language, ~~((as a newspaper of general circulation, in the city or town~~  
16 ~~where the same is published at the time of application for approval,~~  
17 ~~for at least six months prior to the date of such application;))~~ for at  
18 least six months prior to the date of such application. The legal  
19 newspaper shall be compiled, either in whole or in part, in an office

1 ((maintained at the place of publication)) in which printing or  
2 outsource contracting for printing takes place, or web page creation  
3 and/or uploading take place. The newspaper shall contain news of  
4 general interest as contrasted with news of interest primarily to an  
5 organization, group, or class((; and shall hold a second class mailing  
6 permit: PROVIDED, That in case of the consolidation of)). If two or  
7 more newspapers consolidate into one operation, and any one of them  
8 qualifies as a legal newspaper the day it applies for status as a legal  
9 newspaper, such consolidated newspaper shall be considered as qualified  
10 ((if either or any of the papers so consolidated would be a qualified  
11 newspaper at the date of such legal publication, had not such  
12 consolidation taken place: PROVIDED, That)). This section is meant to  
13 be as inclusive as possible, and shall not disqualify ((as a legal  
14 newspaper)) any publication ((which, prior to June 8, 1961, was  
15 adjudged a legal newspaper, so long as it continues to meet the  
16 requirements under which it qualified)) as a legal newspaper if same  
17 continues to meet requirements of this section. Determination shall be  
18 weighted heavily in favor of local elected officials, whose budgets are  
19 directly involved, regarding whether a printed or Internet newspaper is  
20 qualified and chosen to publish legal advertisements for their  
21 jurisdiction or jurisdictions.

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