S-0537.1

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**SENATE BILL 5232**

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**State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Bailey, Wagoner, Zeiger, Becker, and Honeyford

AN ACT Relating to the qualifications of a legal newspaper; and amending RCW 65.16.020.

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

**Sec.**  RCW 65.16.020 and 2001 c 283 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

The qualifications of a legal newspaper are that such newspaper shall have been published regularly, at least once a week, in the English language, as a newspaper of general circulation, in the city or town where the same is published at the time of application for approval, for at least six months prior to the date of such application; shall be compiled either in whole or in part in an office maintained at the place of publication; shall contain news of general interest as contrasted with news of interest primarily to an organization, group or class; shall have a policy to print all statutorily required legal notices; and ((~~shall hold a periodical class mailing permit~~)) can verify circulation by an independent certified circulation audit: PROVIDED, That in case of the consolidation of two or more newspapers, such consolidated newspaper shall be considered as qualified if either or any of the papers so consolidated would be a qualified newspaper at the date of such legal publication, had not such consolidation taken place: PROVIDED, That this section shall not disqualify as a legal newspaper any publication which, prior to June 8, 1961, was adjudged a legal newspaper, so long as it continues to meet the requirements under which it qualified.

**--- END ---**