

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4027**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Sean Garballey and Cindy F. Friedman***

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act allowing print free digital legal notices for the town of Arlington.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>7/20/2023</i>
<i>Cindy F. Friedman</i>	<i>Fourth Middlesex</i>	<i>7/20/2023</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>	<i>7/20/2023</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/6/2024</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4027**

By Representative Garballey of Arlington and Senator Friedman, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4027) of Sean Garballey, Cindy F. Friedman and David M. Rogers (by vote of the town) for legislation to allow print free digital legal notices for the town of Arlington. Municipalities and Regional Government. [Local Approval Received.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)

An Act allowing print free digital legal notices for the town of Arlington.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Notwithstanding subsection (b) of section 13 of chapter 4 of the General  
2 Laws, wherever the town of Arlington, Arlington public schools and their subdivisions,  
3 committees, boards, commissions or officers are required by statute, ordinance, by-law or  
4 judicial order to publish a legal notice in a newspaper or newspaper of general circulation, the  
5 person, corporation, agency, authority, municipality or other legal entity may satisfy such  
6 requirement by one or more of the following means, as authorized by local vote in section 2 of  
7 this act:

8 (a) a newspaper of local or general circulation's print publication;

9 (b) a newspaper's website;

10 (c) websites reporting local news and opinion that satisfy all criteria for digital  
11 publication, set forth in said subsection (b) of said section 13 of said chapter 4;

12 (d) a statewide website that may be maintained as a repository for such notices; or

13 (e) a town wide website that may be maintained as a repository for such notices.

14 SECTION 2. (a) For all legal notices issued by the town of Arlington boards, committees,  
15 commissions and officials including, but not limited to: the Arlington zoning board of appeals,  
16 the Arlington redevelopment board, the conservation commission, the Arlington historic district  
17 commissions, the town manager, town treasurer, town clerk, police chief, fire chief and building  
18 commissioner, the town of Arlington select board shall, by majority vote, determine at least 2 of  
19 the means of legal notice publication set forth in section 1 of this act to satisfy publication  
20 requirements.

21 (b) For all legal notices issued by Arlington public school boards, committees,  
22 commissions and officials, the school committee shall, by majority vote, determine at least 2 of  
23 the means of legal notice publication set forth in section 1 of this act.

24 (c) The town of Arlington select board and school committee may revisit their means of  
25 publication votes at their discretion and elect different means of publication from the options  
26 afforded under section 1 of this act by majority vote.

27 SECTION 3. Nothing set forth in this act shall be construed to alter or amend the time or  
28 timing of publication of legal notices set forth in the General Laws.

29 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.