

SENATE No. 2894

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cynthia Stone Creem and Greg Schwartz

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 authorizing print-free digital legal notices in the city of Newton.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Cynthia Stone Creem</i>	<i>Norfolk and Middlesex</i>	
<i>Greg Schwartz</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>	
<i>John J. Lawn, Jr.</i>	<i>10th Middlesex</i>	<i>12/19/2025</i>

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By Ms. Creem and Mr. Schwartz of Newton, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2894) of Cynthia Stone Creem, Greg Schwartz and John J. Lawn, Jr. (with approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to authorize print-free digital legal notices in the city of Newton. Municipalities and Regional Government. [Local Approval Received.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)

An Act authorizing print-free digital legal notices in the city of Newton.

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 city of Newton and their subdivisions, committees, boards, commissions,
3 bodies, or officers are required by statute, ordinance, by-law, regulation or judicial order to
4 publish a legal notice in a newspaper or newspaper of general circulation, such requirement may
5 be met through one or more of the following means:

6 (i) A print newspaper of local or general circulation;

7 (ii) A newspaper's website;

8 (iii) Websites reporting local news and opinion which satisfy all criteria for digital
9 publication

10 as set forth in said subsection (b) of said section 13 of chapter 4;

11 (iv) A statewide website that may be maintained as a repository for such notices; or

12 (v) A city-wide website that may be maintained as a repository for such notices.

13 SECTION 2. Nothing set forth in this act shall be construed to alter or amend the time or
14 timing of publication of legal notices set forth in the General Laws.

15 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.