SENATE, No. 3466 **STATE OF NEW JERSEY** 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 12, 2023

Sponsored by: Senator JEAN STANFIELD District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Permits municipalities to publish legal notices in certain newspapers.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT As introduced.



S3466 STANFIELD

1 AN ACT permitting municipalities to publish legal notices in certain 2 newspapers and supplementing chapter 53 of Title 40 of the 3 **Revised Statutes.** 4 5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 6 of New Jersey: 7 8 Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the 1. a. 9 contrary, whenever a municipality, municipal agency, or any 10 municipal officer or employee is required by law to publish a legal 11 notice in one or more newspapers, the municipality, municipal 12 agency, officer or employee may satisfy the publication requirement 13 by publishing the legal notice in a qualified newspaper. 14 b. For the purposes of this section: 15 "Municipal agency" means any division, board, bureau, office, commission, or other instrumentality within or created by a 16 17 municipality, and any independent authority, commission, instrumentality or agency created by a municipality. 18 19 "Qualified newspaper" means a newspaper that: 20 (1) is published and circulates at least once each week, for at 21 least 48 weeks of each year; 22 (2) prints a minimum of 25 percent of the published words, in 23 each publication of the newspaper, in English; 24 (3) is available and easily accessible in printed form to the 25 public in the municipality generally; and 26 (4) generally contains information of interest or value to the 27 public in the municipality. 28 29 2. This act shall take effect immediately. 30 31 32 **STATEMENT** 33 34 This bill permits municipalities to publish legal notices in certain qualified newspapers. Under the bill, a municipality, municipal 35 agency, or any municipal officer or employee may satisfy legal 36 37 notice publication requirements by publishing the legal notice in a 38 qualified newspaper. The bill provides that a "qualified newspaper" 39 means a newspaper that is published at least weekly, as specified in 40 the bill, with at least 25 percent of the newspaper's words in 41 English, is generally available to the public in the municipality, and contains information of interest to the public in the municipality. 42