

# Inter-County Association of Western New York

% Steuben County Legislature, 3 East Pulteney Square, Bath, New York 14810

Phone (607) 664-2247

Email: [achapman@steubencountyny.gov](mailto:achapman@steubencountyny.gov) or [bscotchmer@steubencountyny.gov](mailto:bscotchmer@steubencountyny.gov)

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*Representing the Counties of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Chemung, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tompkins, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates*

## RESOLUTION NO. IC-001-24

### SUPPORTING NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY BILL A02067 AND SENATE BILL S00125 ALLOWING FOR ONLINE / DIGITAL PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC NOTICES.

**WHEREAS**, New York State County Law §214, requires the designation of one or more official newspapers; and

**WHEREAS**, the objective in selection of an official paper is to assure that official notices are read by as many people throughout the County as possible; and

**WHEREAS**, the definition of “newspaper” in General Construction Law §60 currently does not allow for publication of legal notices in online/digital publications; and

**WHEREAS**, research shows that most Americans consume news and information through media and online/digital, and daily paper journals have decreased in readership; and

**WHEREAS**, there is growing interest in supplementing publication in the official newspaper(s) via publication in online/digital media; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of New York State Assembly Bill A02067 and Senate Bill S00125 is to allow a public notice, required by law to be published or advertised in a newspaper, to instead be published in an online news publication by amending the General Construction Law Chapter 22, Article 2; and

**WHEREAS**, such online/digital publication must provide general interest news daily for a defined geographic location and must have been continuously published for at least one year prior to online/digital notices; and

**WHEREAS**, these bills would permit local governments to publish notices in news publications with an online/digital presence, increasing access to public information and supporting more local journalism; and

**WHEREAS**, the Inter-County Association of Western New York expresses its desire to increase access to public notices and important public information, which requires finding new ways to disseminate information in both print and online/digital formats.

### NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

**RESOLVED**, the Inter-County Association of Western New York, representing 2.9 million citizens in the State of New York, supports Assembly Bill A02067 and Senate Bill S00125 and encourages the passage of these bills and subsequent signing by the Governor; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Inter-County Association of Western New York also supports the passage of similar legislation that would lead to the inclusion of using online / digital publications in addition to newspapers as contained in County Law §214.2, Local Laws and Notices; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to Honorable Kathy Hochul, New York State Governor; all members of the New York State Senate; all members of the New York State Assembly and the New York State Association of Counties.

**STATE OF NEW YORK)**

**ss.:**

**COUNTY OF STEUBEN)**

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution duly adopted by the Inter-County Association of Western New York while in session in Chautauqua County on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024.

Dated: February 27, 2024  
Bath, New York



Amanda L. Chapman, Secretary  
Inter-County Association of Western New York