

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 924 (HB 481)

2026 Regular Session

Riser

Existing law authorizes parishes, municipalities, and school boards to publish their official proceedings and public notices by contract. Provides that payment may be made monthly or quarterly.

Prior law (R.S. 43:147.1) provided for maximum rates based on price per character, unless the parties agreed to a higher rate. Provided that "character" did not include spaces, letting, or kerning. Provided that the maximum rate was two cents per character if the parish had a city with a population of more than 100,000 and one and one-half cents per character if the parish did not have a city with a population of more than 100,000.

New law increases the maximum rates based on price per character. Provides that the maximum rate is three cents per character in all parishes.

Existing law (R.S. 43:147), effective until July 1, 2027, provides for maximum rates that an official journal may charge generally as follows:

- (1) \$6 per square of 100 words when publication is not done by contract in parishes that do not contain a city with a population greater than 100,000.
- (2) \$0.33 per agate line in parishes that contain a city with a population of greater than 100,000 but no city with a population greater than 300,000.
- (3) \$0.37 per agate line in parishes that contain a city with a population greater than 300,000.

Existing law (R.S. 43:147.2), effective until July 1, 2027, provides that from Jan. through Dec. 31, 2026, a journal may submit a bid pursuant to existing law (R.S. 43:147) or existing law (R.S. 43:147.1) or both, at the journal's option. Provides that beginning Jan. 1, 2027, a journal shall submit bids pursuant to existing law (R.S. 43:147.1), unless the governing body requests otherwise.

New law provides that the cost of publishing official proceedings and public notices shall not exceed the lesser of the rates provided for in new law or the rate in effect on Jan. 1, 2026.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 43:147.1(B)(1) and(2); Adds R.S. 43:147.1(D))