

MSNBC.com AZ panel rejects online choice on public notices

A state House committee is balking at a proposal to allowing Arizona governments and businesses to publish notices online as an alternative to having them printed in a newspaper.

The House Committee on Technology and Infrastructure voted 5-2 Thursday against the bill proposed by Sierra Vista Republican Rep. David Stevens.

State law includes hundreds of publication requirements for public notices dealing with subjects ranging from city budgets and crime victim accounts to forfeitures and liens.

Supporters say online posting is the way of the future and that it provides adequate public disclosure. Opponents dispute that, saying newspaper publication is still needed to reach many members of the public.