

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2018 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	SB 186
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(S) Publish Date:	2/16/2018

Identifier: 20182000971-DOR-PFD-2-12-2018
Title: VOTER REGISTRATION & PFD APP
REGISTRATION
Sponsor: RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR
Requester: Governor

Department: Department of Revenue
Appropriation: Taxation and Treasury
Allocation: Permanent Fund Dividend Division
OMB Component Number: 981

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2019 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2019 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2018) cost: 29.7 (separate supplemental appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2019) cost: 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? Yes
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? Jan 1 2019

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

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Prepared By:	Sara Race	Phone:	(907)957-2881
Division:	Permanent Fund Dividend	Date:	02/12/2018 10:00 AM
Approved By:	Mike Barnhill	Date:	02/12/18
Agency:	OOC		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Analysis

The legislation clarifies the information required on a permanent fund dividend application necessary to automatically register an individual to vote or update their voter information. The legislation further provides Alaskans an opportunity to decline the automatic process at the time of filing. In order to register "eligible" permanent fund dividend applicants, the division would be required to complete eligibility determinations. Once a determination was made, the PFD Division would forward the required data elements, such as name, date of birth, etc., to the Division of Elections. At that point, Elections would complete the initial registration or update the individual's information.

Implementing an "opt-out" option on the permanent fund dividend application will require programming in the online application, paper application imaging software, and the division's database. Some of the associated tasks include adding the actual question to the online application, programming data entry and display screens, testing, and deploying. The changes will take approximately 247 programming hours. Using an average rate of \$120 per hour, the costs associated will be roughly \$29,700.00.

The legislation allows Alaskans an opportunity to make a decision as to whether or not they would like to be registered to vote at the time of filing their PFD application, rather than receiving a mailer subsequently. Presenting the option upfront should reduce costs associated with Election's printing and postage.

The Center for Modern and Secure Elections has offered a grant to help implement the automatic voter registration process. Although the grant has not officially been secured the funding cap was offered at \$35,000.00, which would fully cover the programming costs outlined above. Funding will have to be made available in FY18 for an "opt-out" option to be implemented in January 2019. In late July, the division places a "code freeze", which puts a stop to any major changes to the PFD Application. The code freeze does not result in additional costs—it just means that the deadline for coding changes to the Division's application is June 30 for changes that impact the following calendar year. Therefore, placing the expenses in FY19 does not seem appropriate. If grant funds are unsuccessful, the division will cover the associated costs within existing appropriations.