

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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BILL NO. CSHB114(L&C)

Analysis

This bill proposes amendments to AS 10.25 by adding a new section that will allow an electric or telephone cooperative to engage in an opt-out “round-up” charitable giving program that allows the cooperative to round up customer bills to the next whole dollar amount. Amounts collected must be used for charitable purposes. Currently, all opt-out programs are prohibited under AS 45.45.930. The bill will amend AS 45.45.930 to create an exception for electric and telephone cooperatives organized under AS 10.25 that meet the opt-out criteria contained in the bill. In order to qualify for the exemption, the program must be a “round-up” program, and the cooperative must meet several criteria, including adequate notice of the program, disclosure on every bill that the round-up is voluntary, and an opportunity to ask for a full refund for up to three years.

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to Department of Law.