

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2013 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 100 (U)  
Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier: HB100-ACS-TRC-02-01-13  
Title: GEOGRAPHIC COLA FOR JUSTICES AND  
JUDGES  
Sponsor: RLS BY REQUEST  
Requester: Alaska Court System

Department: Alaska Court System  
Appropriation: Alaska Court System  
Allocation: Trial Courts  
OMB Component Number: 768

## Expenditures/Revenues

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

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2014 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2014 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2014	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Personal Services	346.8		346.8	346.8	346.8	346.8	346.8
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>346.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>346.8</b>	<b>346.8</b>	<b>346.8</b>	<b>346.8</b>	<b>346.8</b>

## Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund	346.8		346.8	346.8	346.8	346.8	346.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>346.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>346.8</b>	<b>346.8</b>	<b>346.8</b>	<b>346.8</b>	<b>346.8</b>

## Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

<b>Change in Revenues</b>							
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2013) cost: 0.0

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2014) cost: 0.0

## ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No  
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

## Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

This is the original fiscal note.

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Phone: (907)463-4750  
Date: 02/05/2013 03:10 PM  
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## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 100

### Analysis

Under current law, AS 22.35.010 states that the geographic cost of living adjustment for judges and justices is limited to a maximum of 17.5% and applies only to the first \$40,000 of their salary (for a maximum of \$7,000). No other state employees are subject to these restrictions.

House Bill 100 amends the statutory provisions that govern the geographic cost of living adjustments that apply to judges' and justices' salaries so that their geographic cost of living adjustments would be calculated in the same manner as for other court system employees. However, the differential would be applied to \$100,000 of a judge's salary.

This fiscal note reflects the cost of this change.

# FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 100

## Analysis Continued

### Alaska Court System

#### Review of Geographic Differentials<sup>1</sup>

2/5/2013

Court Locations w/Geographic Differentials	FY 13 Base Salary	Statutory Judicial Geo-Diff %	Current Geographic Differential Payment Per Judge By Location	Total Current Geographic Payment for All Locations	HB100 % Proposed Geo-Diff for FY 14	HB100 Amounts Paid on \$100,000 Base Per Judge	Total HB100 Proposed Geographic Payment for All Locations
<b>Superior Courts:</b>						-	-
Fairbanks (6)	181,440	3.5%	1,400	8,400	3.0%	3,000	18,000
Kodiak (1)	181,440	10.5%	4,200	4,200	11.0%	11,000	11,000
Dillingham (1)	181,440	17.5%	7,000	7,000	37.0%	37,000	37,000
Bethel (2)	181,440	17.5%	7,000	14,000	50.0%	50,000	100,000
Barrow (1)	181,440	17.5%	7,000	7,000	50.0%	50,000	50,000
Nome (1)	181,440	17.5%	7,000	7,000	37.0%	37,000	37,000
Kotzebue (1)	181,440	17.5%	7,000	7,000	60.0%	60,000	60,000
Juneau (2)	181,440	0.0%	-	-	5.0%	5,000	10,000
Sitka (1)	181,440	0.0%	-	-	5.0%	5,000	5,000
<b>District Courts:</b>						-	-
Fairbanks (3)	153,840	3.5%	1,400	4,200	3.0%	3,000	9,000
Valdez (1)	153,840	10.5%	4,200	4,200	11.0%	11,000	11,000
Bethel (1)	153,840	17.5%	7,000	7,000	50.0%	50,000	50,000
Juneau (2)	153,840	0.0%	-	-	5.0%	5,000	10,000
Total Gross Wages for All Judges				70,000			408,000
Fringe Benefits @ 2.59%				1,813			10,567
				71,813			418,567
<b>Increased Cost of Changes to Differentials</b>							<b>346,800</b>

<sup>1</sup> As is the case with other state employees, some judges currently receive a geographic differential. Unlike other state employees, however, a judge's geographic differential is calculated only upon the first \$40,000 of salary, not the entire salary. Additionally, the geographic differential paid to some judges is substantially lower than the differential paid to other state employees in the same location. For example, second district judges in Kotzebue are paid a 17.5% geographic differential, while other state employees in this community are paid 60%.