

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2015 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 71  
Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier: SB071-DHSS-MAA-04-07-15  
Title: VACCINE CERTIFICATION FOR PHARMACISTS  
Sponsor: GIESSEL BY REQUEST  
Requester: Senate Labor & Commerce Committee

Department: Department of Health and Social Services  
Appropriation: Health Care Services  
Allocation: Medical Assistance Administration  
OMB Component Number: 242

## Expenditures/Revenues

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

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2016 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2016 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2016	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

<b>Change in Revenues</b>							
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**Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2015) cost:** 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)  
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

**Estimated CAPITAL (FY2016) 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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 07/01/16

## Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

The Department of Health and Social Services has determined it can absorb any anticipated capital costs within its existing appropriation.

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Agency: Health & Social Services  
Phone: (907)334-2520  
Date: 04/07/2015 10:30 AM  
Date: 04/07/15

## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB071

### Analysis

This bill will give certified pharmacists authority to immunize Alaska adults and children without having to collaborate with an overseeing physician.

This bill does not require an operating appropriation. The department has determined that any anticipated costs can be absorbed within its existing appropriation. This bill would not be expected to result in increased costs due to additional vaccine utilization, because many pharmacies already have the ability to provide immunization services and receive reimbursement through a collaborative practice agreement.

However, the Medicaid program would be expected to incur costs resulting from changes needed to the claims processing system to accommodate the elimination of the collaborative practice agreements. Modifying the claims processing system to enroll these providers would result in a one-time development cost. Changes in federal Medicaid program rules resulting from the Affordable Care Act [42 CFR 455.410(b)] require all ordering, rendering, and referring providers to be enrolled with the Medicaid program. Currently pharmacists are not individually enrolled by Alaska Medicaid, the pharmacy is enrolled. Due to challenges with the claims processing system and upcoming federal mandates (e.g. ICD-10) it is not anticipated that the claims processing system would be able to accommodate enrolling pharmacists before 7/1/2016.

Regulations [7 AAC 120.110 (d)] would need to be changed to allow for the payment of vaccines independently prescribed and administered by an enrolled pharmacist. The current regulation restricts payment to vaccines administered by a pharmacist for whom the Board of Pharmacy has approved a collaborative practice agreement.