

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2018 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 194
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: HB194-DHSS-BVS-1-30-18
Title: USPHS & NOAA OFFICERS AS VETERANS
Sponsor: CLAMAN
Requester: House MVA

Department: Department of Health and Social Services
Appropriation: Public Health
Allocation: Bureau of Vital Statistics
OMB Component Number: 961

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)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	6.3		6.7	7.1	7.6	8.0	8.4
1005 GF/Prgm (DGF)	(6.3)		(6.7)	(7.1)	(7.6)	(8.0)	(8.4)
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: 0.0 (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? No
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? n/a

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Not applicable; initial version.

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Phone: (907)269-6680
Date: 01/25/2018
Date: 01/29/18

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB194

Analysis

HB 194 version "A" adds the commissioned corps of the United States Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to the current definition of veterans under the Vital Statistics Act (AS 18.50.320(7)(B)). Since 2012, family members or personal legal representatives (such as executors) of resident veterans that pass away in Alaska may each request up to four (4) certified copies of the veteran's death certificate without charge.

Approximately 90% of the Bureau of Vital Statistics ("Bureau") budget for vital records administration comes from fees (general fund program receipts). Because the Bureau relies substantially on fees to support its operating costs, any loss of these program receipts will have an impact on staffing and quality of service to the public if not replaced by general funds.

Based on the Bureau's experience with free death certificates under existing law, the number of newly eligible veteran deaths per year is estimated to be approximately 20. Assuming an average of four qualified family members (or executors) order all four death certificates each at no charge (families have been known to request as many as 40 copies of a death certificate), each veteran death represents 16 certificates provided to families.

It is anticipated the impact would be comparatively less for the first few years and then increase as more families become aware of the new law. For these calculations, the division assumes 75% of eligible family members and individuals will take advantage of this opportunity in Year 1, gradually increasing to the full 100% by Year 6.

The current fee for a death certificate is \$30 for the first copy, and \$25 thereafter for the same record at the same time. A set of four is therefore $\$30 + 3(\$25) = \$105$.

Year 1: 75% of 20 veteran deaths x 4 requestors x one \$105 set of 4 copies = \$6,300

Year 6: 100% of 20 veteran deaths x 4 requestors x one \$105 set of 4 copies = \$8,400

The Bureau will experience a greater loss of revenue if the total number of decedents classified as veterans exceeds assumptions or more than four qualified family members/individuals request four certificates. If the current level of staffing and service to the public is to be maintained, these lost program receipts will have to be replaced with GF.