

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2019 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 35
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB035-DHSS-FP-4-19-2019
Title: CRIMES;SEX CRIMES;SENTENCING; PAROLE
Sponsor: RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR
Requester: Governor

Department: Department of Health and Social Services
Appropriation: Children's Services
Allocation: Family Preservation
OMB Component Number: 1628

Expenditures/Revenues

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

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2020 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2020 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2020	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services	73.3		21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	73.3	0.0	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	73.3		21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0
Total	73.3	0.0	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0

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 (FY2019) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2020) cost: 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)

Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account? No
(Supplemental/Capital/New Fund - 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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

The CS adopted in Senate Judiciary requires changes to current practices for mandatory reports. A fiscal note is now necessary and is based on the Governor's February 13, 2019 FY2020 amended budget request.

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Division:	Office of Children's Services	Date:	04/18/2019 03:00 PM
Approved By:	Sana Efird, Administrative Service Director	Date:	04/19/19
Agency:	Office of Management and Budget		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB035

Analysis

This bill, in multiple sections, expands the communication methods for "online enticement of a minor" and "unlawful exploitation of a minor." In addition, it amends Section 33 of AS 47.17.020(a) to require that mandatory reporters who have reasonable cause to suspect that a child has suffered harm of child abuse or neglect that may be a sexual offense to report to the department and the nearest law enforcement agency. This law changes the current practice where mandatory reporters were required to report any suspicions of child maltreatment (including sexual offenses) only to the department. Currently, the department sends all screened out reports which involve a sexual offense to a child to the applicable law enforcement agency.

In addition, the bill also amends Section 36 of AS 47.17.022(b) to require training relating to the requirements for reporting a suspected sex offense to occur on an annual basis for employees who are required to report abuse or neglect of children. The current practice is initial mandatory reporter training for all mandatory reporters, but annual repeat training is not required.

The bill would require modifications to the department's mandatory reporter training due to both the new statutory definition of a sexual offense, as well as the new requirement in which mandatory reporters would need to report to both the department and the nearest law enforcement agency when there is suspected child maltreatment involving a sexual offense. The training resides on the Department of Health and Social Services website. The Office of Children's Services would be involved in modifications. The cost to update the training module and ensure readiness for an increase in annual traffic would be \$3.6.

Mandatory reporters of suspected sexual offenses to children would require notification of the broadened communication methods of child enticement and exploitation, the requirement to report child maltreatment that involves a sexual offense to both the department and the nearest law enforcement agency, and be advised that their training must occur annually. The department estimates that television and radio advertising as well as printed materials would be necessary for effective outreach to statewide mandatory reporters. The estimate for outreach is \$62.8 and the estimate for printed materials is \$6.9 for FY2020. In subsequent years, the department estimates that the cost for outreach can decrease to \$21.0 for FY2021, FY2022, FY2023, FY2024, and 2025. Due to the annual training component, it is necessary to achieve ongoing outreach efforts to ensure that mandatory reporters have full knowledge of the new requirements. The Office of Children's Services estimates that the ongoing outreach efforts would require one month of messaging.

The Office of Children's Services contracts with the department's commissioner's office public information team to manage and promote the mandatory reporting module through a reimbursable services agreement. The Office of Children's Services anticipates the total cost in FY2020 would be \$73.3. The total cost in FY2021, FY2020, FY2023, FY2024, and FY2025 would be \$21.0.

These activities do not meet the criteria to be eligible for Title IV-E reimbursement.