

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2019 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	SB 83
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(S) Publish Date:	4/3/2019

Identifier: SB83-DCCED-RCA-03-20-19
Title: TELECOMMUNICATIONS
REGULATION/EXEMPTIONS
Sponsor: BIRCH
Requester: (S) Labor & Commerce

Department: Department of Commerce, Community and
Economic Development
Appropriation: Regulatory Commission of Alaska
Allocation: Regulatory Commission of Alaska
OMB Component Number: 2417

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							
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)

None							
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 (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? 0
(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? Yes
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 12/31/23

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Not applicable, initial version based on the Governor's 2/13/19 budget.

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Division:	Regulatory Commission of Alaska	Date:	03/18/2019
Approved By:	April A. Wilkerson, Administrative Services Director	Date:	03/20/19
Agency:	Office of Management and Budget		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Analysis

SB 83 retains AS 42.05.840, the statute allowing the RCA to establish a universal service fund to be used to ensure the provision of long distance service at reasonable rates throughout Alaska and to otherwise preserve universal service. The RCA will continue to have oversight responsibility for the Alaska Universal Service Fund.

Among the retained statutes governing telecommunications service is AS 42.04.100, requiring the RCA to establish a Communications Carrier Section to develop, administer, and recommend policies and programs related to communications in the state involving wire, cable, radio, and space satellites.

Under the current version of SB 83, the Regulatory Cost Charge (RCC) - which funds the agency's annual operating budget - as applied to telecommunications industry sectors will be broadened to include any otherwise economically deregulated public utility that would otherwise be exempted from paying RCCs. The effect of this change will likely spread the costs of retained telecommunications regulatory functions under SB 83 over a greater number of customers, and thus would likely be more equitable than the current situation.

The RCA expects to implement the provisions of this legislation with existing resources.