

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2020 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 189
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: HB189-DHSS-FCSN-2-21-2020
Title: CHILD IN NEED OF AID; NOTICE OF
PLACEMENT
Sponsor: TALERICO
Requester: (H) HSS

Department: Department of Health and Social Services
Appropriation: Children's Services
Allocation: Foster Care Special Need
OMB Component Number: 2238

Expenditures/Revenues

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

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2021 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2021 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2021	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services	595.7		595.7	595.7	595.7	595.7	595.7
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	595.7	0.0	595.7	595.7	595.7	595.7	595.7

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1002 Fed Rcpts (Fed)	208.5		208.5	208.5	208.5	208.5	208.5
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	387.2		387.2	387.2	387.2	387.2	387.2
Total	595.7	0.0	595.7	595.7	595.7	595.7	595.7

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 (FY2020) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2021) 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? Yes
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 07/01/21

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Not applicable, initial version.

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Division:	Office of Children's Services	Date:	02/03/2020
Approved By:	Sana Efird, Administrative Services Director	Date:	02/04/20
Agency:	Office of Management and Budget		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2020 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB189

Analysis

House Bill 189 adds a new section to AS 47.10 requiring notification to noncustodial parents and/or adult family members within 30 days after a removal of a child from their home. The section also requires the assigned Office of Children's Services supervisor to verify in writing the due diligence to locate the family members.

Federal law currently requires the Department to notify non-custodial parents and adult family members of the removal of a child from a child's home under 42 U.S.C. 671 (a)(29).

The Office of Children's Services has incorporated mandated relative searches and notifications into existing policy and practice, however, although federally required, there has never been state or federal funding specific to this task. Additionally, to assist in achieving the federal compliance, Alaska began providing general fund to Alaska Tribal Child Welfare Compact co-signers to perform diligent and ongoing relative searches. These relative searches are specific for children who fall under the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and are dedicated to finding all adult family members for that child. The Department does not perform these extensive relative searches for all children due to the lack of funding necessary to accomplish this task. For children who do not fall under ICWA, the Department identifies adult family members through interviews with the parents and searches of Department databases. While this legislation does not mandate an extensive relative search, in order to notify all adult family members, a diligent relative search would need to be performed.

To ensure a robust relative search with timely notifications for all children to non-custodial parents and all adult family members, the Office of Children's Services estimates the total cost at \$908.5. This amount is based on the 1,619 children removed from the home in calendar year 2019. It takes an average of ten hours for each relative search and notification, at an average personal services cost of about \$56.11/hr. Out of the \$908.5, \$312.8 is compacted with Co-signers of the Compact specific to relative searches for service populations designated in individual Tribal Support Services Funding Agreements. The balance, \$595.7, would be necessary to ensure compliance with the proposed statute for all children.