

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2021 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 155
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: HB155-JUD-ACS-03-31-2021

Department: Judiciary

Title: COURT SYSTEM PROVIDE VISITORS &
EXPERTS

Appropriation: Alaska Court System

Sponsor: TUCK

Allocation: Trial Courts

Requester: House Judiciary

OMB Component Number: 768

Expenditures/Revenues

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

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2022 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2022 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2022	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Personal Services		104.7	104.7	104.7	104.7	104.7	104.7
Travel							
Services		854.4	854.4	854.4	854.4	854.4	854.4
Commodities		1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	960.6	960.6	960.6	960.6	960.6	960.6

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)		960.6	960.6	960.6	960.6	960.6	960.6
Total	0.0	960.6	960.6	960.6	960.6	960.6	960.6

Positions

Full-time		1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2021) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2022) 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? 0
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?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:

Initial version.

Prepared By: Douglas Wooliver, Deputy Administrative Director
Division: Alaska Court System
Approved By: Douglas Wooliver for Stacey Marz, Administrative Director
Agency: Alaska Court System

Phone: (907)463-4750
Date: 03/31/2021 10:00 AM
Date: 03/31/21

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 155

Analysis

House Bill 155 would transfer from the Office of Public advocacy (OPA) to the court system the duty to provide court visitors in guardianship cases, and in cases involving the involuntary administration of psychotropic medication. This fiscal note reflects the cost of that transfer, which is based on the most recent costs incurred by OPA for this work, plus one additional staff person to oversee the training, supervision, and scheduling of court visitors.

But statute, Judges appoint court visitors provided by OPA to assess the needs and conditions of respondents in guardianship proceedings. Visitors are neutral evaluators who submit their assessment directly to the judge in the case. Visitors also make reports on the continuing appropriateness of the guardianship by conducting a follow-up reviews every three years. Finally, court visitors are appointed in cases where an evaluation or treatment facility requests that a court order a person in their care to receive psychotropic medication. The visitor's role in that type of appointment is to assess the competency of the person to consent, or not, to the administration of the drug.

In cooperation with the executive branch, the court system included the funding for this transfer of responsibility in its FY2022 budget request and this amount is included in the FY2022 Governor's Request. The court system has been advised that if HB155 is passed, that the funding for this operational change will be reflected in the fiscal note section of the appropriation bill (HB 69) versus in the FY2022 Governor's Request.