



THE STATE  
*of* **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Revenue

### COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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March 3, 2026

The Honorable Andy Josephson  
House Finance Committee, Co-Chair  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 505  
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Neal Foster  
House Finance Committee, Co-Chair  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 511  
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Calvin Schrage  
House Finance Committee, Co-Chair  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 410  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Co-Chairs Josephson, Foster, and Schrage,

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with a response to the question asked of the Department of Revenue (DOR) during the House Bill 280 hearing in the House Finance Committee on February 23, 2026. Please see the question in bold and italics and our response immediately below the question.

***Provide information on Tax Division positions that have been cut in the past decade.***

We are providing information on the positions eliminated since the start of the Walker administration, which marked the beginning of a sustained decline in our staffing levels. Over the years, certain positions were added through fiscal notes that introduced new or expanded responsibilities. In other instances, new duties were assigned without any additional staff. For example, the marijuana tax program was implemented without new positions for the Tax Division.

Whenever a position was deleted, the corresponding funding was also removed from our budget. While the Committee's questions focused on audit positions, it is important to note that we have been strategic when selecting positions for deletion whenever a choice was available. Although audit positions have been lost, we have made every effort to preserve revenue-generating roles. In some cases, specific positions were eliminated without our input; in others, we were given a target reduction and allowed to determine which positions to cut.

Despite our efforts to protect revenue-generating positions, losing approximately 30 percent of our staff inevitably required the remaining workforce to absorb the duties of eliminated roles. As a result, the audit positions that remain today perform less audit work than in the past because they have taken on responsibilities previously handled by support staff.

Attached is a table detailing all position additions and deletions since fiscal year 2015. The Tax Division's net reduction during this period is 38 positions, representing just under 30 percent of our total staffing at the start of the Walker administration.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Janelle L. Earls  
Acting Commissioner

Enclosure: Tax Division Budgeted Position Count Changes by Budget Scenario

cc: Jordan Shilling, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor  
Lacey Sanders, Director, Office of Management and Budget

## Tax Division Budgeted Position Count Changes by Budget Scenario

	PFT	PPT	NP	Total	Notes
FY15 MP	125	0	3	<b>128</b>	Deleted two PFT A/Ps, added two new PFT Tax Tech 3s
FY16 Gov	120	0	1	<b>121</b>	Deleted ten PFTs, deleted two NPs, transferred in five PFT CIU Investigators
FY16 MP	118	0	1	<b>119</b>	The Legislature deleted one PFT DPM 3 and one PFT A/P 3
FY17 Gov	112	0	1	<b>113</b>	Deleted six PFT positions
FY17 MP	110	0	1	<b>111</b>	Deleted a PFT Economist 2 in FY17 Gov Amend, deleted a PFT Appraiser 1 in FY17 MP
FY18 Gov	102	0	0	<b>102</b>	Deleted two PFT positions, deleted one NP, transferred out four PFT Investigators to Law, transferred out a PFT Office Assistant to Treasury, transferred out one PFT Admin Assistant 2 to Admin Services
FY18 MP	108	0	0	<b>108</b>	Transferred four PFT Investigators back from Law, added two new PFT Corp Income Tax Auditor 3s funded by a new increment by the Legislature
FY19 Gov	107	0	0	<b>107</b>	Deleted a PFT Accounting Tech 2 by way of transferring to the Commissioner's Office to become a PX Exec Secretary
FY19 MP	107	0	1	<b>108</b>	Add one NP College Intern
FY20 Gov	107	0	1	<b>108</b>	
FY20 MP	103	0	1	<b>104</b>	Deleted four PFT positions: Audit Master, Tax Auditor 3, Accounting Tech 3, Tax Tech 2
FY21 Gov	100	0	1	<b>101</b>	Deleted three PFT positions: Rev Audit Supervisor 1, Tax Auditor 2, Publications Spec 2
FY21 MP	96	0	1	<b>97</b>	Transfer four PFT Investigators to CIU
FY22 Gov	94	0	1	<b>95</b>	Delete PFT Revenue Appeals Auditor 1 and PFT Imaging Operator
FY22 MP	94	0	1	<b>95</b>	
FY23 Gov	94	0	1	<b>95</b>	
FY23 MP	94	0	1	<b>95</b>	
FY24 Gov	94	0	1	<b>95</b>	
FY24 MP	94	0	2	<b>96</b>	Add one NP College Intern
FY25 Gov	94	0	2	<b>96</b>	
FY25 MP	94	0	1	<b>95</b>	Delete expired NP College Intern
FY26 Gov	94	0	1	<b>95</b>	
FY26 MP	89	0	1	<b>90</b>	Delete four PFT positions made by the Legislature: two Audit Masters, two Tax Tech 3s. Also delete one PFT A/P 1
FY27 Gov	89	0	1	<b>90</b>	

FY = Fiscal Year  
 MP = Management Plan  
 NP = Nonpermanent  
 PFT = Permanent Full Time  
 PPT = Permanent Part Time

A/P = Analyst/Programmer  
 CIU = Criminal Investigations Unit  
 DPM = Data Processing Manager