

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 278  
Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier: HB278CS(STA)-DCCED-COM-03-09-26  
Title: ECONOMIC DEV:AK-IRELAND TRADE COMM.  
Sponsor: COSTELLO  
Requester: (H) State Affairs

Department: Department of Commerce, Community and  
Economic Development  
Appropriation: Executive Administration  
Allocation: Commissioner's Office  
OMB Component Number: 1027

**Expenditures/Revenues**

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2027 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2027 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services	10.0		1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>

**Fund Source (Operating Only)**

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	10.0		1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>

**Positions**

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

**Change in Revenues**

None	***		***	***	***	***	***	***
<b>Total</b>	***	<b>0.0</b>	***	***	***	***	***	***

**Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2026) cost:** 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

**Estimated CAPITAL (FY2027) 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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? N/A

**Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:**

Updated to reflect committee substitute.

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Division:	Division of Administrative Services	Date:	03/09/2026
Approved By:	Hannah Lager, Administrative Services Director	Date:	03/09/26
Agency:	Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSHB 278(STA)

**Analysis**

This bill creates an Alaska-Ireland Trade Commission, which consist of five members appointed by the Governor. The Commission is charged with advancing, promoting, initiating, and encouraging trade, investment, economic support, business, and academic exchange and investment between Alaska and Ireland. The Commission is tasked with submitting an annual report of their findings, results, and recommendations, as well as detail on all donations, to the Legislature at the beginning of each legislative session.

Members of the Commission serve without compensation, so no personal services costs are included. The Commission will be supported by staff in the Commissioner's Office. Given the short timeframe for the Commission to convene, evaluate recommendations, and provide a report to the legislature, the initial report on Commission activities is anticipated to be condensed. The Commission is expected to meet six times per year in the first year, all virtually. Travel for the Commission can only occur if it is funded by donations. Donations must be tracked by source, including address and contact information for donors. No provision is provided for donations from organizations.

The new committee substitute models the donation tracking information on the existing Alaska Public Offices Commission campaign contribution tracking. The department does not have a system in place to track donations or contributions at the level required by this legislation. Currently the department receives a low volume of gifts, bequests, or grants each year for travel activities in divisions from nonprofits, industry professional organizations, or other organizations, but is not required to track or report on the individual information. The future volume of donations from individuals is unknown.

The department would need to create a donation management system to maintain the donor information required by the legislation and process the financial transactions to collect the revenue from future donations. Initial development of the system is estimated to require 75 hours of programming time. This work will be performed by existing staff in the department who are funded through a cost allocation plan. The Commissioners Office will require funding to pay for the programming time for the donation system through that plan. Programming and setup of the payment processing, and collection and secure storage of donor information, is estimated at 75 hours of programming time. Annual costs to host the database in cloud services are estimated at \$1.5 per year.

A language appropriation authorizing collection and expenditure of Statutory Designated Program Receipts (SDPR) in the Commissioner’s Office will be needed to receive gifts, bequests, or grants from private parties. For purposes of this fiscal note, SDPR revenues through that language appropriation are projected as indeterminate as the amounts are not yet known.

**COST ESTIMATES**

<b>Services:</b>	\$ 8.5	Donation system programming: 75 hours at \$113.09 per hour in FY2027 only
	\$ 1.5	Cloud hosting in each year