

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 377
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: HB377-DPS-SWS-4-3-26
Title: PUBLIC RECORDS: AUDIO & VIDEO; MUNI COSTS
Sponsor: STATE AFFAIRS
Requester: (H) State Affairs

Department: Department of Public Safety
Appropriation: Statewide Support
Allocation: Commissioner's Office
OMB Component Number: 523

Expenditures/Revenues

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

	FY2027	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2027 Request	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2027	FY 2027					
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	***	***	***	***	***

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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?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:

Not applicable, initial version.

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Division: Commissioner's Office	Date: 04/03/2026
Approved By: Dianna Thornton, Administrative Services Director	Date: 04/03/26
Agency: Department of Public Safety	

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB377

Analysis

This bill updates definitions within the Alaska Public Records Act and related statutes to explicitly include audio and video recordings and authorizes the Department of Public Safety to recover actual personnel costs associated with searching, reviewing, redacting, and copying records in response to public records requests.

The proposed changes do not alter current departmental operations or create new programmatic responsibilities. Audio and video recordings are already managed and disclosed under existing public records processes, and the clarification of these records in statute does not expand the scope of work performed by the department. While the bill authorizes recovery of certain personnel costs, it does not change existing legal limitations related to privilege review, which represents the most resource-intensive component of processing public records requests. As a result, the bill does not materially offset current workload or generate additional revenue sufficient to impact operations.

The department does not anticipate an increase in workload, staffing, or operating costs as a result of this legislation. Any potential cases arising under the new statute can be absorbed within existing resources.

Based on the adopted amendment, this legislation authorizes the Department of Public Safety to recover actual personnel costs associated with responding to public records requests. However, any fees collected are deposited into the State's general fund, as the department does not have statutory authority to retain or expend these receipts.

While the bill may result in increased fee collections (potentially up to \$504.2 thousand annually based on FY2025 personnel hours dedicated to records requests) these revenues do not offset departmental operating costs. The department will continue to absorb the workload associated with processing public records requests within existing resources.

The department also anticipates that implementation of a fee structure may reduce the overall volume of records requests; however, the extent of this behavioral change is uncertain.

At this time, the Department of Public Safety is unable to reliably estimate the net fiscal impact due to variability in both the number of records requests and the level of effort required to process them.

Accordingly, the Department of Public Safety submits an indeterminate revenue collection fiscal note.