

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 123  
Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier: SB123-DOA-OPA-4-3-26  
Title: CINA: CITIZENS' REVIEW PANELS  
Sponsor: MYERS BY REQUEST  
Requester: Senate Health & Social Services

Department: Department of Administration  
Appropriation: Legal and Advocacy Services  
Allocation: Office of Public Advocacy  
OMB Component Number: 43

**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	413.6		413.6	413.6	413.6	413.6	413.6	413.6
Travel	11.0		11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0
Services	85.0		85.0	85.0	85.0	85.0	85.0	85.0
Commodities	7.0		7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>516.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>516.6</b>	<b>516.6</b>	<b>516.6</b>	<b>516.6</b>	<b>516.6</b>	<b>516.6</b>

**Fund Source (Operating Only)**

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	516.6		516.6	516.6	516.6	516.6	516.6	516.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>516.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>516.6</b>	<b>516.6</b>	<b>516.6</b>	<b>516.6</b>	<b>516.6</b>	<b>516.6</b>

**Positions**

Full-time	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Part-time							
Temporary							

**Change in Revenues**

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? NA

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

Not applicable, initial version.

Prepared By: James Stinson, Director	Phone: (907)269-3504
Division: Office of Public Advocacy	Date: 04/03/2026
Approved By: Stefanie Bingham, Administrative Services Director	Date: 04/03/26
Agency: Department of Administration	

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB123

**Analysis**

This bill establishes the Citizen’s Review Panel for Permanency Planning to coordinate the activities of newly created local citizen out-of-home care review panels. These panels are designed to oversee the activities and case plans for Child in Need of Aid cases where children are placed out of their homes while in the custody of the Department. Panels would make recommendations to the Court on placement.

Families and the child's assigned attorney and OPA guardians ad litem are allowed to participate in the reviews conducted by these panels but counsel for parents are not specifically authorized to participate which could be problematic as clients may be questioned about case-plan progress or other aspects of the case without counsel present, this may significantly interfere with the parents' right to counsel in these matters as the panels’ reports can be relied on by the courts at permanency and “other disposition” hearings, which include both adjudication and termination phases. Were counsel able to participate in these reviews it would increase the workload for parent attorneys at the Office of Public Advocacy.

The bill could cause delays in CINA proceedings and will increase costs to the agency as it impacts any CINA case involving a removal. Panels across the state will need time to receive and review information and the court will have to review the recommendations those panels provide. The Agency provides a significant number of attorneys to children in CINA cases. These attorneys will also be required to participate in these panels and will bill for their time.

Additionally, the requirement of cooperation from assistant public advocates on local panels and the participation of the Public Advocate on the Citizen’s Review Panel for Permanency Planning would increase workload on existing positions that cannot be absorbed with current staffing. OPA is required to provide attorneys to parents, attorneys to children, as well as a guardians ad litem. The Agency is still assessing the full potential fiscal impact of this bill. At minimum, the Agency will need two additional attorney positions:

Add flexibly staffed Attorney 1/2/3/4 (range 24/C, Anchorage)

Personal Services - \$206.8  
Travel - \$5.5  
Contractual - \$27.7  
Indirect - \$14.8  
Supplies - \$3.5

Add flexibly staffed GAL Attorney 1/2/3/4 (range 24/C, Anchorage)

Personal Services - \$206.8  
Travel - \$5.5  
Contractual - \$27.7  
Indirect - \$14.8  
Supplies - \$3.5