

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2026 Legislative Session

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

Identifier: SB123-FCS-FCSN-4-3-26
Title: CINA: CITIZENS' REVIEW PANELS
Sponsor: MYERS BY REQUEST
Requester: (S)HSS

Department: Department of Family and Community Services
Appropriation: Children's Services
Allocation: Foster Care Special Need
OMB Component Number: 3317

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	***	***	***	***	***

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	***	0.0	***	***	***	***	***

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Initial version.

Prepared By:	Bruce Downes, Social Services Program Officer	Phone:	(907)419-4439
Division:	Children's Services	Date:	04/03/2026 12:00 AM
Approved By:	Kyle Scherrer, Division Operations Manager	Date:	04/03/26
Agency:	Department of Family and Community Services		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 123

Analysis

SB 123 establishes citizen review panels for permanency planning for certain children in state custody.

Section 5 establishes a citizen's review panel for permanency planning within the Department of Administration. Section 5 also establishes local review panels in each judicial district. The panels will review child welfare cases, case plans, case progress reports from the department or the assigned guardian ad litem, court records, and other relevant information about a child and the child's family. The panels will determine whether a child has a case plan that is designed to achieve placement that is the least restrictive and close to the child's parents, appropriateness of the child's placement, the extent of compliance with the child's case plan, the extent of progress that has been made toward mitigating the causes that necessitated a placement away from the child's parents, ascertain if the child is likely to return home or placed in an adoption or guardianship, determine compliance with federal law and the Indian Child Welfare Act, and determine if requirements within AS 47.10.080(f) and (l) and 47.10.142(h) have been met.

The requirement for panel reviews, along with the obligation for courts and the department to cooperate with those reviews and to communicate with case participants, may negatively impact permanency for children in out-of-home placement by creating unanticipated delays. These delays may inadvertently affect: (1) the amount of time a child remains in out-of-home care pending reunification with the child's parent(s) or exit from foster care through adoption or guardianship; or (2) the department's ability to maintain reasonable or active efforts, thereby impacting federal reimbursement for maintenance and administrative costs.

The fiscal impact of this legislation is indeterminate because the department does not know to what extent permanency delays would occur as a result of panel review.

The department will continue to monitor this legislation and may offer an updated fiscal note if further clarity is provided regarding potential delays in permanency.