



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

**Department of
Health and Social Services**

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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April 1, 2021

The Honorable Click Bishop
Co-Chair, Senate Finance Committee
Alaska State Senate
Alaska State Capitol Room 516
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Bert Stedman
Co-Chair, Senate Finance Committee
Alaska State Senate
Alaska State Capitol Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Bishop and Senator Stedman:

This letter presents responses to the Senate Finance Committee member questions received by the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) at the Monday, March 29, 2021 Senate Finance Committee hearing on HB 76 Extending COVID-19 Disaster Emergency.

Senator Wielechowski Referencing Page 5, lines 7-8, the appropriation made in sec. 37(a), ch. 8, SLA 2020, of excess federal receipts received during the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021 – how much excess federal receipts did DHSS receive under Sec. 37(a) and how much has the department spent?

The legislature has approved a total of \$426.6 million in federal funding through the revised program legislative (RPL) authority provided in the FY2021 budget bill section 37 (a). Of this funding, only \$379.7 million was tied to federal funding for the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Attached to this letter is a document with further details on the approved FY2021 RPLs.

Senator Wilson: What regulations have been suspended that pertain to telehealth, particularly those regulations related to telehealth for behavioral health?

AUTHORITY	DIVISION	SUSPENDED AS DESCRIBED BELOW:
7 AAC 70 110 (b)(1)(3-4)	DBH	Suspend on site requirements for community behavioral health service providers
7 AAC 135.010 (d) (3)	DBH	Allow phone consultations with another provider
7 AAC 135.040	DBH	Suspend authorization requirement for services that exceed fiscal year and extend currently authorized services; allow clinics to conduct assessments in ways other than face to face
7 AAC 110.635	HCS	To expand services that may be delivered via telehealth
7 AAC 110.625	HCS	To expand approved telehealth modes of delivery

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Senate Finance Committee Follow Up
April 1, 2021

Senator Stedman: Please provide an updated status of disaster declarations and/or public health emergencies in other states.

The department received an updated matrix of the status of disaster declarations and public health emergencies in the United States. The matrix was provided by the National Governors Association and is attached to this letter.

Accompanying this letter is a letter from the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs that answers Senator Wielechowski's second question pertaining to the expenditures from the Disaster Relief Fund.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Sincerely,



Adam Crum
Commissioner

Attachments: FY2021 RPLs Summary
(S) FIN 3.29.21 Committee Response – DMVA
Status of State COVID-19 Emergency Orders

CC: The Honorable David Wilson, Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Lyman Hoffman, Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Natasha von Imhof, Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Bill Wielechowski, Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Donny Olson, Alaska State Senate
Mr. Miles Baker, Legislative Director, Office of Governor Mike Dunleavy

Office of Management and Budget
FY2021 Revised Programs Legislative (RPLs)

As of April 1, 2021

Agency	Date Approved	RPL#	Subject	Operating	Capital	TOTAL
DCCED	8/29/2020	08-2021-0184	Administration of State of Alaska COVID-19 Small Business Relief (\$249.8M previously authorized)	-	-	-
DCCED	12/10/2020	08-2021-0319	Additional Federal Authority for Community Block Grants CARES Act		2,536.8	2,536.8
DEED	8/29/2020	05-2021-0075	National Endowment for the Arts CARES Act	421.5	-	421.5
DEED	1/18/2021	05-2021-0189	US Dept of Education Consolidated Approp Act, COVID Relief	168,111.1	-	168,111.1
		04-2021-1066				
DOR	1/18/2021	04-2021-1067	COVID-19 Federal Housing and Homeless Stimulus / AHFC Ops	200,000.0	6,500.0	206,500.0
DOTP&F	1/18/2021	25-2021-4038	COVID-19 FHWA Grants	2,130.2	-	2,130.2
COVID RPLs Grand Total				370,662.8	9,036.8	379,699.6
Agency	Date Approved	RPL#	Subject	Operating	Capital	TOTAL
DCCED	12/10/2020	08-2021-0278	Market Access Program Federal Carryforward and Cochran Missions	850.0	-	850.0
DCCED	12/10/2020	08-2021-0279	Oilfield Inspections and Mechanical Integrity Testing	26.3	-	26.3
DCCED	12/10/2020	08-2021-0296	AEA Alternative Energy & Efficiency Programs – Fivemile Creek Hydroelectric Project in Chitina AK	-	3,000.0	3,000.0
DEC	8/29/2020	18-2021-0447	Fairbanks PM2.5 Nonattainment Area Voluntary Heating Device Change Out Program	-	14,717.3	14,717.3
DFG	8/29/2020	11-2021-0021	Chinook Mitigation	6,200.0	-	6,200.0
DFG	8/29/2020	11-2021-0022	Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund	-	4,600.0	4,600.0
DNR	8/29/2020	10-2021-5047	Geological and Geophysical Surveys	500.0	-	500.0
DNR	8/29/2020	10-2021-5319	Agriculture Grant Programs Funding - Economic Assistance	4,000.0	-	4,000.0
DNR	8/29/2020	10-2021-5315	Federal and Local Govt. Funded Forest Resource and Fire Program	-	7,000.0	7,000.0
DNR	8/29/2020	10-2021-5316	National Historic Preservation Fund	-	500.0	500.0
DNR	8/29/2020	10-2021-5317	Geologic Mapping for Energy Development (USGS STATEMAP)	-	450.0	450.0
DNR	8/29/2020	10-2021-5318	Critical Minerals Mapping - Earth MRI (3DEEP)	-	1,800.0	1,800.0
DPS	8/29/2020	12-2021-0047	Marine Fisheries Patrol Improvements	-	1,100.0	1,100.0
DOLWD	12/10/2020	07-2021-1173	Existing Grants and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).	2,190.2	-	2,190.2
Non-COVID RPLs Grand Total				13,766.5	33,167.3	46,933.8
Total of All FY2021 RPLs				384,429.3	42,204.1	426,633.4



March 31, 2021

The Honorable Senator Stedman
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Stedman,

During the Senate Finance Committee meeting on Monday, March 29th, Senator Wielechowski asked a question that required follow up from DMVA. Question and the corresponding answer are below.

Senator Wielechowski: Was this authority used at all between January 15th and February 14th? If so, how much? Or have we just been using the authority provided under SB 241 for using funds from the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF)? How much has been spent from the Disaster Relief fund for SB 241 or another subsequent disaster declaration? (regarding the section HB 76 authorizing the spending of \$10 million from the Disaster Relief Fund)

DMVA used the \$10,000,000 authorized in SB241 to allocate \$7,000,000 into the two COVID-19 declared disasters:

- AK269 (State)
- DR4533 (Federal)

The majority of these allocated funds will be returned to the unallocated balance of the DRF based on the fact that CARES Act funds can be utilized. DMVA anticipates an estimated need of \$1,000,000 of the authorized DRF funding for any items of State Management that are not eligible for reimbursement from either FEMA or CARES Act funding over the life of this disaster.

To date, there is approximately \$1,800,000 obligated between the State and Federal disasters. The department anticipates the majority of those obligations to be reimbursed by either CARES Act funding or FEMA.

With FEMA allowing payments to come from CARES Act funding instead of FEMA/State funding, DMVA can now reallocate up to \$6,000,000 of State funds to the 2018 Cook Inlet Earthquake and/or the 2020 Southeast Storm.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any follow-up questions.

Sincerely,

Stephanie A. Richard

Stephanie Richard

Administrative Services Director, DMVA

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