

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 188
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: HB188CS(STA)-DOH-EP-04-20-26
Title: WELCOMING ALASKA OFFICE
Sponsor: MINA
Requester: (H) STA

Department: Department of Health
Appropriation: Public Health
Allocation: Emergency Programs
OMB Component Number: 2877

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
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services	147.6		147.6	147.6	147.6	147.6	147.6	147.6
Travel								
Services	20.0		20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Commodities	5.0		2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
Total Operating	172.6	0.0	169.6	169.6	169.6	169.6	169.6	169.6

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1002 Fed Rcpts (Fed)	25.9		25.4	25.4	25.4	25.4	25.4
1003 GF/Match (UGF)	146.7		144.2	144.2	144.2	144.2	144.2
Total	172.6	0.0	169.6	169.6	169.6	169.6	169.6

Positions

Full-time	1.0		1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
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? **Yes**
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? **07/01/27**

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Not applicable; initial version.

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Division: <u>Public Health</u>	Date: <u>04/17/2026</u>
Approved By: <u>Pam Halloran, Assistant Commissioner</u>	Date: <u>04/20/26</u>
Agency: <u>Department of Health</u>	

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSHB188

Analysis

HB 188 creates a Welcoming Alaska Office within the Department of Labor and Workforce Development to coordinate statewide services for new immigrants, newcomers, and refugees. The bill establishes a Welcoming Alaska Center to provide language, employment, and service-navigation support; creates a Welcoming Alaska Advisory Committee to guide policy and review budget needs; and requires each principal department to designate a liaison to coordinate with the new office on licensing, language access, and service-delivery issues. It also repeals the outdated Office of Citizenship Assistance, defines key terms, and includes a mandated study and report on immigration-related opportunities and performance metrics by July 1, 2027.

This bill requires the Department of Health to designate a Coordinator of Refugee Health Services responsible for statewide coordination of refugee health programs in alignment with federal guidance. The legislation may result in increased cross-agency coordination responsibilities and operational adjustments for the Department of Health, particularly in areas such as Medicaid and CHIP access, maternal and child health programs, public health nursing, behavioral health referrals, language-access compliance, and other newcomer-focused service pathways.

To meet the requirements of HB 188, one additional full-time position is needed within the Division of Public Health. The position would support cross-agency coordination internally and externally and is beyond current staff capacity.

Cost estimates:

Personnel - (1) Full-time, range 20 , step C, Anchorage, Program Coordinator 2 \$147.6

Services - Costs associated with reimbursable services agreement chargebacks to support the position. \$20.0 per year.

Commodities - Supplies and materials. The first year includes additional commodities costs for computer equipment for the new position. \$5.0 for year one, \$2.0 year two and forward.