

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 299
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: HB299-LAW-CJL-02-20-26
Title: VETERANS; SENTENCE PROG; CRIM
PROCEDURE
Sponsor: STAPP
Requester: (H) Military & Veterans' Affairs

Department: Department of Law
Appropriation: Criminal Division
Allocation: Criminal Justice Litigation
OMB Component Number: 2202

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 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2027	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032
Personal Services	376.5		376.5	376.5	376.5	376.5	376.5
Travel	13.0		13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0
Services	80.0		80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0
Commodities	10.0		5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	479.5	0.0	474.5	474.5	474.5	474.5	474.5

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	479.5		474.5	474.5	474.5	474.5	474.5
Total	479.5	0.0	474.5	474.5	474.5	474.5	474.5

Positions

Full-time	2.0		2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
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? 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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?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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Agency: Department of Law

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Date: 02/20/26

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 299

Analysis

This bill establishes a new veterans sentencing program that is unlike existing sentencing mechanisms in Alaska law. The court is required to inform defendants of the program, and the prosecution may use state and federal databases to verify a person’s veteran status. If an eligible veteran is convicted of or pleads guilty to a misdemeanor offense, the court may proceed under the program, which may include probation, evidence-based treatment, and a case plan. Upon successful completion, the court may set aside or reduce the conviction, or expunge it from the veteran’s record. Eligibility turns on whether there are one or more indicators of mental or physical symptoms of a condition created by military service that may have contributed to the offense. The bill does not clearly define how eligibility is established, what evidentiary standards apply, or how completion of treatment is measured.

Because this is a new and undefined sentencing structure, the division expects significant litigation regarding whether a defendant qualifies for the program, whether the defendant has successfully completed treatment, and which party bears the burden of proof on eligibility and compliance. These disputes are likely to generate hearings, motion practice, and appeals beyond those associated with typical misdemeanor sentencing. The division anticipates the need for at least one full-time prosecutor to handle this case type, litigate contested eligibility and compliance issues, and serve as a subject-matter advisor to prosecutors statewide. An additional paralegal will be required to manage increased victim contact and case coordination resulting from the anticipated litigation. This estimate is conservative, as the division cannot predict how many defendants will qualify for or seek entry into the program.

Personal Services:	\$250.5	Attorney 5, range 25, full-time, Anchorage
	\$126.0	Paralegal 3, range 17, full-time, Anchorage
Travel:	\$13.0	Annual travel
Services:	\$80.0	For statewide core services chargebacks such as lease space, telephones, etc.
Commodities:	\$10.0	One-time setup costs for equipment and space in FY2027
	\$5.0	Ongoing supply and equipment costs