

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2024 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 60
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB060-JUD-ACS-1-22-24
Title: REPEAL WORKERS' COMP APPEALS
COMMISSION
Sponsor: WIELECHOWSKI
Requester: Senate Judiciary Committee

Department: Judiciary
Appropriation: Alaska Court System
Allocation: Trial Courts
OMB Component Number: 768

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2025 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2025 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2025	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	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 (FY2024) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2025) 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? n/a
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Updated for FY 25 and version B

Prepared By:	Nancy Meade, General Counsel	Phone:	(907)463-4736
Division:	Alaska Court System	Date:	01/22/2024 10:00 AM
Approved By:	Stacey Marz, Administrative Director	Date:	01/22/24
Agency:	Alaska Court System		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB60

Analysis

Senate Bill 60, version B, would eliminate the Alaska Workers' Compensation Appeals Commission currently housed within the Department of Labor, and transfer jurisdiction over appeals pending in that Commission and all future appeals from the decisions of the Workers' Compensation Board to the superior court.

According to case data previously provided by the Commission, an average of 33 appeals per year were handled by the Commission in the period from 2006-2017, with a decrease in the number in the years from 2018 to present. The court system therefore anticipates that, under this bill, the superior court would be handling approximately 25-30 additional administrative appeals from the Board each year. These additional cases would be presided over by a superior court judge; we anticipate that the impact of these new cases would be spread across jurisdictions and could be handled by our superior court judges without additional resources.

The court system does not anticipate that this bill would change the caseload of the Supreme Court, which already currently handles appeals from the Commission. Its jurisdiction would not be altered under this bill; the appeals would simply come from the superior court instead of from the Commission.

The court system anticipates that it will be able to absorb the increased caseload into its operations without a fiscal impact, and therefore submits this zero fiscal note.