

State of Alaska
Executive Order 127
Statement of Cost

Summary

This Executive Order will transfer the duties and functions of the Board of Massage Therapists (board) to the Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing (division) within the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development and will eliminate the board.

The division anticipates some cost savings on the travel line due to the elimination of quarterly board meetings. However, this savings will be offset by the need for program staff to travel to conferences to stay up to date on current issues and trends with the profession so the net impact to travel from this order is anticipated to be zero.

It is anticipated that the reduction in staff time preparing for, staffing, and following up after board meetings will offset the increase in division responsibilities for the ongoing management for the program. It is unknown if this change could result in increases to the expert witness or legal services costs for the program.

This change will not eliminate the licensure or regulation of massage therapists or massage therapy establishments. It will only move the regulation of the program from the board to the division. The division will require an additional Investigator 4 to assume the work of reviewing investigation cases to determine if there has been a violation of statute or regulation; this work is currently completed by the licensed massage therapists on the volunteer board. Due to the nature of the work and the potential impact on applicants' and licensees' ability to pursue their chosen profession, this work must be performed by staff with an advanced level of responsibility.

Alaska Statute 08.01.065 requires the division to “annually review each fee level to determine whether the regulatory costs of each occupation are approximately equal to fee collections related to that occupation.” The increase in costs associated with this Executive Order will be borne by the licensees and may result in increased fees for the licensing program. In FY2023 this program had 1,232 licensees.

Agency Cost Summary

Agency	Cost
Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development	
New Investigator 4, Range 20	1 PFT PCN
Personal Services	\$126.3
Services	\$25.0
Commodities (FY25 only)	\$10.0
Total FY25	\$161.3
Total FY26 and beyond	\$151.3

Estimated Costs:

Personal Services: One full-time Investigator 4, Range 20, in Anchorage - \$126.3

Services: Core services and support costs - \$25.0

Commodities: One-time set up costs for position - \$10.0