

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Medicaid Services
Allocation: Medicaid Services

Transaction Details

Title: Autism Services Inflation Adjustment
Section: Language
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	446.6
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 446.6

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1002 Fed Rcpts	223.3
1003 GF/Match	223.3

Explanation

Since 2018, Medicaid rates for behavioral health service codes have been adjusted upward for inflation by 12.76%, except for autism services. This would bring inflationary rate parity to the average cost of autism services.

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We would like to add intent language which is as follows: "It is the legislature's intent to increase Medicaid reimbursement rates for autism services by 12.76% to bring payment parity with similar Medicaid behavioral health service codes."

CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT 1 TO AMEDMENT 7

OFFERED IN: The House Finance Committee

TO: HB 268

OFFERED BY: Representative Stapp

FISCAL YEAR: FY25

DEPARTMENT: Department of Health

APPROPRIATION: Medicaid Services

ALLOCATION: Medicaid Services

ADD: \$26,800 General Fund/Match, 1003
\$44,900 Federal Receipts, 1002

EXPLANATION: This additional funding to the amounts listed in Amendment 7 represent an accurate accounting of a 12.76% rate increase for autism services. With these additions the total amount for a rate increase would be \$250,100 in General fund/Match and \$268,200.

DEPARTMENT: Department of Military & Veterans' Affairs (DMVA)

APPROPRIATION: Military & Veterans' Affairs

ALLOCATION: Office of the Commissioner

DELETE: \$200,000 of General Funds, 1004

EXPLANATION: The funding provided to the Department for Tuition Assistance for Alaska National Guard and Naval Militia Members was meant to come from the University of Alaska (UA). The corresponding decrement in the UA budget was ultimately rejected by the UA subcommittee and the increment in Department was accepted by the DMVA subcommittee. It is the opinion of the sponsor that any funds added to allocations should be met with similar decrements in other areas of the budget. Understanding the need for an increase in the Medicaid reimbursement rate for autism services to adjust for inflation, the \$200,000 decrement in this line would reduce the fiscal impact on the budget.

2024 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

OFFERED IN: The House Finance Committee

TO: HB 268 / HB 270

OFFERED BY: Rep. Coulombe

FISCAL YEAR: FY25

DEPARTMENT: Administration

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$2,188.2) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$59.5) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Corrections

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$11,864.5) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Education and Early Development

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$1,398.7) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Environmental Conservation

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$690.6) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Family and Community Services

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$6,535.0) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Fish and Game

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$950.7) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Governor

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$2,128.3) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Health

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$4,176.8) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Labor and Workforce Development

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$507.3) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Law

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$2,010.0) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Military and Veterans' Affairs

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$16.1) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Natural Resources

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$2,517.0) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Public Safety

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$6,645.7) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Revenue

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$808.0) general funds (1004)

DEPARTMENT: Transportation

UNALLOCATED DECREMENT: (\$2,116.2) general funds (1004)

EXPLANATION: Half of UGF actual vacancy less vacancy factor adjustment.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Administration
Appropriation: Centralized Admin. Services
Allocation: Personnel

Transaction Details

Title: MH: Centralized Accommodation Fund
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	100.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 100.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1037 GF/MH	100.0
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Explanation

Per the Governor's Council on Disabilities and the Work Matters Task Force, this amendment would appropriate funding for the Department of Administration to create a Centralized Accommodation Program. The State of Alaska operates this on a provisional basis that, after a 4-month trial period, may convert to Probationary Status.

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The National Job Accommodation Network estimates that accommodating an employee in this manner costs less than \$500. With the current labor crisis that the State of Alaska is facing, this is an efficient way to hire Alaskans to fulfill meaningful work in State service without costly outside recruiting and retention efforts.

This funding would also operate to accommodate personal assistance services in the workplace for qualifying State employees, further removing barriers to employing Alaskans who are ready to work.

The committee approved this last year. Both chambers approved this last year. The Governor vetoed it. This amendment does nothing new from last year, but the Governor's veto should not be a barrier from trying once again to place this in the operating budget.

2024 Session Operating Budget Proposal

\$1.2 million Funding for Public Broadcasting--Radio

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Hannan

Agency: Administration
Appropriation: Public Communications Services
Allocation: Public Broadcasting - Radio

Transaction Details

Title: Intent Language for Public Radio Funding.
Wordage Type: Intent
Linkage: Allocation - Public Broadcasting - Radio

Wordage

It is the intent of the legislature that the Department of Administration allocate the funds to rural public radio stations whose broadcast coverage areas serve 20,000 people or less.

Explanation

This will ensure that public radio grants will go to rural stations that play a vital role in emergency communications.

Agency: Administration
Appropriation: Public Communications Services
Allocation: Public Broadcasting - Radio

Transaction Details

Title: Add \$1.2 million for Public Broadcasting
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

2024 Session Operating Budget Proposal

\$1.2 million Funding for Public Broadcasting--Radio

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	1,200.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 1,200.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	1,200.0
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Explanation

This amendment provides funding for the Public Broadcasting radio system in the least populated areas of the state. Public radio stations represent 11 out of the State Emergency Alert System (EAS) Plan's 22 "Local Primary Stations," which are the primary source of EAS information in their region. All 11 are rural stations. This amendment recognizes that while we may not be able to restore public broadcasting funding in all areas of the state, the legislature can take action to ensure that residents in some of our most remote areas are able to maintain access to our Emergency Alert System as well as other benefits of public radio.

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Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Commerce, Community & Econ Dev
Appropriation: Community and Regional Affairs
Allocation: Community & Regional Affairs

Transaction Details

Title: Grant to Econsult Solutions, Inc. for Alaska Filming Initiative Feasibility Study
Section: Section 1
Type: IncOTI

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	50.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 50.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	50.0
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Explanation

The Alaska Filming Initiative has requested this appropriation for the purposes of conducting a comprehensive feasibility study to understand how firm incentives can boost the Alaska economy, create jobs, and put the state on the global cinematic map.

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Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Ortiz

Agency: Commerce, Community & Econ Dev
Appropriation: Alaska Seafood Marketing Inst
Allocation: Alaska Seafood Marketing Inst

Transaction Details

Title: Support Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute
Section: Section 1
Type: IncOTI

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	10,000.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 10,000.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	10,000.0
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Explanation

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee

To: HB 268 / HB 270

Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Commerce, Community & Econ Dev

Appropriation: Tourism Marketing

Allocation: Tourism Marketing

Transaction Details

Title: Tourism Marketing Grant to Alaska Travel Industry Association (ATIA)

Section: Section 1

Type: IncOTI

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	2,500.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 2,500.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	2,500.0
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Explanation

Last year, the Senate amended into the first Senate Committee substitute of HB 39 (2023) an appropriation request titled "Tourism Marketing Grant to the Alaska Travel Industry Association (ATIA)." An additional amount was added during the Senate Finance budget process, and the total amount equaled \$5 million. This appropriation was passed out of both bodies and sent to the Governor where he vetoed half the amount.

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FY 25 does not include a new IncOTI for this allocation. This amendment adds the amount vetoed last year.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Ortiz

Agency: Commerce, Community & Econ Dev
Appropriation: Tourism Marketing
Allocation: Tourism Marketing

Transaction Details

Title: Increase Tourism Marketing Grant to Alaska Travel Industry Association (ATIA)
Section: Section 1
Type: IncOTI

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	7,500.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 7,500.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	7,500.0
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Explanation

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Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Commerce, Community & Econ Dev
Appropriation: Community and Regional Affairs
Allocation: Community & Regional Affairs

Transaction Details

Title: Grant to the Municipality of Anchorage: State Match for East 56th Avenue Shelter
Section: Section 1
Type: IncOTI

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	4,000.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 4,000.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	4,000.0
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Explanation

The former Solid Waste Services Administration building at 1111 E 56th Avenue has been identified and used as an emergency cold weather shelter in Anchorage this year. The current operating costs of the shelter are estimated to be \$3.94 million for the total cost between October 15 - April 30. This funding is covered. However, the shelter is also able

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to be used as a low-barrier shelter that could be used between May 1 - October 15. The cost for doing so would amount to another \$3.6 million.

The Anchorage Assembly and Mayor have jointly requested (through Anchorage Resolution 2023-37 and the 2024 Anchorage Legislative Program) a \$4 million match for the Alaska Legislature to keep the shelter running year-round. This amendment would allow this to happen.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Ortiz

Agency: Commerce, Community & Econ Dev
Appropriation: Community and Regional Affairs
Allocation: Community & Regional Affairs

Transaction Details

Title: Grant to Inter-Island Ferry Authority for Operations
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	250.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 250.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	250.0
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Explanation

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Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Commerce, Community & Econ Dev
Appropriation: Community and Regional Affairs
Allocation: Community & Regional Affairs

Transaction Details

Title: Grant to the Iditarod Trail Committee, Inc. for Iditarod Stimulus Funding
Section: Section 1
Type: IncOTI

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	1,400.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 1,400.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	1,400.0
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Explanation

The most prestigious sled dog race in the world, the Iditarod, is facing severe fiscal restraints following three significant factors: inflation, the pandemic, and criticism from PETA. The COVID-19 pandemic left many dog mushers/teams without the ability to seek supplemental income by offering sled dog tours to tourists. Inflation has driven the price of dog food up almost 50%, with some mushers reporting spending nearly \$42,000 a year

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just to feed dogs. Lastly, PETA has publicly criticized the event as being harmful to dogs and, as a result, major sponsors like Alaska Airlines, ExxonMobil, Coca-Cola and Wells Fargo have ended race sponsorships. The result is a budget problem significant enough to threaten the future of this Alaskan pastime.

The CEO of the Iditarod requested \$1.4 million to offset these costs to the organization and mushers in order to safely secure the future of the race for both Alaskans and tourists.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Commerce, Community & Econ Dev
Appropriation: Community and Regional Affairs
Allocation: Community & Regional Affairs

Transaction Details

Title: Grant to Volunteers of America Alaska for Volunteers of America Direct Services (FY2025-FY2026)
Section: Section 1
Type: IncT

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	887.9
Travel:	0.0
Services:	212.5
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 1,100.4

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	1,100.4
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Explanation

This appropriation to the Volunteers of America will help ensure direct-service staff are able to spend the maximum amount of time with clients as possible, that clients face less hurdles to services, and help support young Alaskans struggling with mental health. The cost breakdown over two years is as such:

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Project Personnel (\$1,775,800)- Psychiatric & medical staff, leadership staff capacity to execute facility & system projects.

Facility Projects (\$75,000)- Facility adjustments to residential center for anti-ligature precautions, security system, and intake office.

System Projects (\$350,000)- Agency systems enhancements to support increased service volume & maximize staff efficiency.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Hannan

Agency: Commerce, Community & Econ Dev
Appropriation: AK Gasline Development Corp
Allocation: AK Gasline Development Corp

Transaction Details

Title: Remove Funding for the Alaska Gasline Development Corporation
Section: Section 1
Type: Dec

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	-4,222.8
Travel:	-71.4
Services:	-1,818.0
Commodities:	-60.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> -6,172.2

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	-10
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	-3,086.1
1235 AGDC-LNG	-3,086.1

Explanation

Since 2014 the state has appropriated more than \$180 million to the Alaska LNG Project Fund. We have very little to show for that investment. AGDC has failed to attract a single investor over its entire existence.

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Many experts in the industry have said the project iterations over the years have not attracted participants because they simply do not pencil out. This also goes for AGDC's latest "Hail Mary" pitch for an in-state line, taking advantage of growing desperation across the Railbelt due to the looming energy crisis.

As a prominent member of the other body said of AGDC earlier this session, "At some point, we need to have a conversation about mothballing it." This is that conversation.

2024 Session Operating Budget Proposal

Alyeska Reading Academy Decrement

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Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Ortiz

Agency: Education & Early Dev
Appropriation: Education Support and Admin
Allocation: Alyeska Reading Academy

Transaction Details

Title: Remove ARAI Salary Adjustment
Section: Section 1
Type: Dec

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	-31.6
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> -31.6

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	-31.6
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Agency: Education & Early Dev
Appropriation: Education Support and Admin
Allocation: Alyeska Reading Academy

Transaction Details

Title: Delete Funding for Alyeska Reading Academy and Institute
Section: Section 1
Type: Dec

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Alyeska Reading Academy Decrement

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	-1,140.5
Travel:	-44.6
Services:	-708.0
Commodities:	-1,115.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	-1,991.9
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/>
	-5,000.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	-7
Permanent Part-Time:	-2
Temporary:	-3

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	-5,000.0
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2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Education & Early Dev
Appropriation: Education Support and Admin
Allocation: Student and School Achievement

Transaction Details

Title: Reduce Grant Funding for Hunting Education
Section: Section 1
Type: Dec

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	-500.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> -500.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	-500.0
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Explanation

This program will provide competitive grant funding to school districts for hunter education, gun safety, and archery. This will teach students firearm safety, respect for natural resources, and wildlife conservation. This is a permanent increment, and the program will be administered by DEED.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Galvin

Agency: Education & Early Dev
Appropriation: Education Support and Admin
Allocation: Early Learning Coordination

Transaction Details

Title: Add Funding for Parents as Teachers Program
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	500.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 500.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	500.0
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Explanation

Direct state funding for Parents as Teachers (PAT) program from DEED, in cooperation with the Department of Health, to meet waitlist needs and to support this child abuse and neglect prevention program.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Education & Early Dev
Appropriation: Education Support and Admin
Allocation: Early Learning Coordination

Transaction Details

Title: Increase Head Start Grants to Provide Grantees with Additional Matching Funds
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	200.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 200.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	200.0
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Explanation

\$5,000,000 was added for Head Start grants during the House Finance Education and Early Development subcommittee process. However, the Alaska Early Childhood Advocacy Group asked for \$5.2 million to total \$12 million in state investment. This amendment adds the remaining part of that request.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Education & Early Dev
Appropriation: Education Support and Admin
Allocation: Student and School Achievement

Transaction Details

Title: MH Trust: Out-Year General Funds for Alaska Autism Resource Center
 (FY2024-FY2025)
Section: Section 1
Type: IncT

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	50.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 50.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1037 GF/MH	50.0
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Explanation

The Alaska Autism Resource Center provides Autism Spectrum Disorder related education, resources, and training to individuals across the state of Alaska in rural, remote, and urban areas. The AARC supports all Alaskans, from birth, whether directly affected by autism, living with someone with autism, community members (first responders, service

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providers, caregivers, medical providers), and those seeking education and information about autism.

The Governor proposed, and the House Finance Education and Early Development subcommittee approved, a \$50,000 decrement to the General Fund appropriation for Alaska Autism Resource Center. It was a temporary appropriation (FY24-FY25), and this amendment restores that funding.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Galvin

Agency: Education & Early Dev
Appropriation: Education Support and Admin
Allocation: Early Learning Coordination

Transaction Details

Title: Add Funding for Best Beginnings' Imagination Library
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	320.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 320.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	320.0
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Explanation

This amendment would allow more communities, children, and families to access the highly successful early literacy program Imagination Library.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Education & Early Dev
Appropriation: Education Support and Admin
Allocation: Career and Technical Education

Transaction Details

Title: Coding in Minecraft Program for School Districts to Meet Computer Science Education Initiative
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	1,200.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 1,200.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	1,200.0
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Explanation

This request is to continue providing virtual educator courses for Coding in Minecraft, a computer science credential program with supporting curriculum delivered through Minecraft Education, which is currently being funded through federal COVID-19 relief funds. The curriculum is fully aligned with the Alaska Computer Science Standards to

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ensure quality of learning. It also provides licenses to any public school in Alaska and immerse students through game-based learning to develop and prove their coding skills using MakeCode and JavaScript or Python. This program has been very successful and since its launch in September 2022, Alaska has seen the fastest adoption curve of any state.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Environmental Conservation
Appropriation: Administration
Allocation: Administrative Services

Transaction Details

Title: Add an Analyst/Programmer 4 Position for Permitting Issues
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	139.1
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 139.1

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	1
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	139.1
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Explanation

DEC permit processing is time intensive and difficult to navigate. This amendment would add a new Analyst/Programmer 4 position solely to take on this task.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Family and Community Services
Appropriation: Children's Services
Allocation: Children's Services Management

Transaction Details

Title: Reduce One-Time Increment for Legal Services to Address Class Action Lawsuit
Section: Section 1
Type: Dec

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	-500.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> -500.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	-500.0
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Explanation

The Department of Family and Community Services and Office of Children's Services has been served with a large class action lawsuit, A Better Childhood. The lawsuit seeks compensation in the form of a consent decree; consent decrees are extremely expensive with average estimates over \$15 million and continue over a decade if the lawsuit prevails.

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This funding will allow the department to retain legal counsel through a reimbursable services agreement with the Department of Law, procure expert witness testimony, and initiate a public relations campaign.

This would decrement half the IncOTI appropriation.

2024 Session Operating Budget Proposal
DFG CommFish 10% Inc

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Ortiz

Agency: Fish and Game
Appropriation: Commercial Fisheries
Allocation: SE Region Fisheries Mgmt.

Transaction Details
Title: Additional 10% of FY25 Increase for Cost of Services Due to Inflation
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)		Positions	
Personal Services:	0.0	Permanent Full-Time:	0
Travel:	0.0	Permanent Part-Time:	0
Services:	5.0	Temporary:	0
Commodities:	0.0		
Capital Outlay:	0.0	Funding (Amounts are in thousands)	
Grants:	0.0	1004 Gen Fund	5.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0		
	5.0		

Agency: Fish and Game
Appropriation: Commercial Fisheries
Allocation: Central Region Fisheries Mgmt.

Transaction Details
Title: Additional 10% of FY25 Increase for Cost of Services Due to Inflation
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

2024 Session Operating Budget Proposal

DFG CommFish 10% Inc

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Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	10.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/>
	10.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	10.0
---------------	------

Agency: Fish and Game
Appropriation: Commercial Fisheries
Allocation: AYK Region Fisheries Mgmt.

Transaction Details

Title: Additional 10% of FY25 Increase for Cost of Services Due to Inflation
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	7.5
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/>
	7.5

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	7.5
---------------	-----

Agency: Fish and Game
Appropriation: Commercial Fisheries
Allocation: Westward Region Fisheries Mgmt

Transaction Details

Title: Additional 10% of FY25 Increase for Cost of Services Due to Inflation
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

2024 Session Operating Budget Proposal

DFG CommFish 10% Inc

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Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	7.5
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/>
	7.5

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	7.5
---------------	-----

Agency: Fish and Game
Appropriation: Commercial Fisheries
Allocation: Statewide Fisheries Management

Transaction Details

Title: Additional 10% of FY25 Increase for Cost of Services Due to Inflation
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	5.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/>
	5.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	5.0
---------------	-----

Agency: Fish and Game
Appropriation: Commercial Fisheries
Allocation: Statewide Fisheries Management

Transaction Details

Title: Additional 10% of FY25 Increase for Mark, Tag, and Age Laboratory Cost Increases Due to Inflation
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

2024 Session Operating Budget Proposal

DFG CommFish 10% Inc

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Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	5.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 5.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	5.0
---------------	-----

Agency: Fish and Game
Appropriation: Commercial Fisheries
Allocation: Statewide Fisheries Management

Transaction Details

Title: Additional 10% of FY25 Increase for Pathology Laboratory Cost Increases
Due to Inflation
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	1.3
Travel:	0.0
Services:	2.2
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 3.5

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	3.5
---------------	-----

2024 Session Operating Budget Proposal

DFG CommFish 5% Inc

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Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Ortiz

Agency: Fish and Game
Appropriation: Commercial Fisheries
Allocation: SE Region Fisheries Mgmt.

Transaction Details

Title: Additional 5% of FY25 Increase for Cost of Services Due to Inflation
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	2.5
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<u>2.5</u>

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	2.5
---------------	-----

Agency: Fish and Game
Appropriation: Commercial Fisheries
Allocation: Central Region Fisheries Mgmt.

Transaction Details

Title: Additional 5% of FY25 Increase for Cost of Services Due to Inflation
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

2024 Session Operating Budget Proposal

DFG CommFish 5% Inc

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Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	5.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/>
	5.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	5.0
---------------	-----

Agency: Fish and Game
Appropriation: Commercial Fisheries
Allocation: AYK Region Fisheries Mgmt.

Transaction Details

Title: Additional 5% of FY25 Increase for Cost of Services Due to Inflation
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	3.8
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/>
	3.8

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	3.8
---------------	-----

Agency: Fish and Game
Appropriation: Commercial Fisheries
Allocation: Westward Region Fisheries Mgmt

Transaction Details

Title: Additional 5% of FY25 Increase for Cost of Services Due to Inflation
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

2024 Session Operating Budget Proposal

DFG CommFish 5% Inc

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Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	3.8
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 3.8

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	3.8
---------------	-----

Agency: Fish and Game
Appropriation: Commercial Fisheries
Allocation: Statewide Fisheries Management

Transaction Details

Title: Additional 5% of FY25 Increase for Mark, Tag, and Age Laboratory Cost Increase Due to Inflation
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	2.5
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 2.5

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	2.5
---------------	-----

Agency: Fish and Game
Appropriation: Commercial Fisheries
Allocation: Statewide Fisheries Management

Transaction Details

Title: Additional 5% Increase of FY25 Pathology Laboratory Cost Increases Due to Inflation
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

2024 Session Operating Budget Proposal

DFG CommFish 5% Inc

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Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.7
Travel:	0.0
Services:	1.1
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/>
	1.8

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	1.8
---------------	-----

Agency: Fish and Game
Appropriation: Commercial Fisheries
Allocation: Statewide Fisheries Management

Transaction Details

Title: Additional 5% of FY25 Increase for Cost of Services Due to Inflation
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	2.5
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/>
	2.5

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	2.5
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2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Medicaid Services
Allocation: Medicaid Services

Transaction Details

Title: K0739 U2 Labor Code Rate Increase
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	3,000.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 3,000.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	3,000.0
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Explanation

The K0739 labor code deals with stairlifts, patient lifts, and wheelchair lifts Medicaid reimbursement. The Specialized Medical Equipment Fee Schedule has remained the same since 2012 at a rate of \$20 per 15 minutes (\$80/hr). This amendment would raise it to \$34.75 per 15 minutes (\$139/hr), a rate equivalent to the allowable amount under this labor code.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Medicaid Services
Allocation: Medicaid Services

Transaction Details

Title: Funding for Federally Qualified Health Centers' Medicaid Payments
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	1,500.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 1,500.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	1,500.0
---------------	---------

Explanation

The Alaska Primary Care Association has requested a \$1.5 million appropriation for support to the Department to accomplish the Federally Qualified Health Center's Medicaid payment requests in order to:

- 1) Adjust PPS rates for inflation adjustment unlawfully withheld (MEI).

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- 2) Provide Alaska FQHCs accurate and legal Medicaid payment for services delivered to patients who have coverage from both Medicare and Medicaid (known as dual eligibles).
- 3) Amend regulations and procedures to provide FQHCs meaningful opportunities to apply for scope changes.
- 4) Revise and clarify new start policies for Alaska FQHCs.
- 5) Revise and clarify FQHC Medicaid cost reporting deadlines, processes, and requirements for APM rebase.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Public Health
Allocation: Epidemiology

Transaction Details

Title: Adopt Remaining Recommendations in the Alaska Tuberculosis Elimination Plan (FY25-FY30)
Section: Section 1
Type: IncT

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	1,600.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 1,600.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1003 GF/Match	1,600.0
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Explanation

The Division of Public Health proposed increments for the purpose to enacting recommendations from the Alaska Tuberculosis Elimination Plan. Alaska's indigenous populations are disproportionately affected by this disease, and the Alaska TB Elimination Plan outlines strategies to reduce the infection among those populations by 25% of people

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by 2031.

In order to effectively screen, detect and treat TB before it becomes infectious, the Division requires this appropriation. The Governor decremented the TB appropriation in his proposed budget, and \$350,000 was restored in the House Finance Department of Health subcommittee, but this is inadequate to appropriately implement this plan.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Public Assistance
Allocation: General Relief Assistance

Transaction Details

Title: Provide Support to Alaskan Food Banks and Pantries to Promote Food Security
Section: Section 1
Type: IncOTI

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	1,500.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 1,500.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	1,500.0
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Explanation

The Governor requested two appropriations to support Alaskan food banks and pantries to promote food security: one in the operating budget for \$1.5 million and one in the supplemental for \$3 million. The House Finance Health subcommittee did not approve the IncOTI for the operating appropriation and this amendment would restore the Governor's

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request.

With no participation in the Summer Food Service Program, extra food bank grants can serve to be temporary helpful alternatives for children and families at risk of food insecurity.

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Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Behavioral Health
Allocation: BH Treatment and Recovery Grants

Transaction Details

Title: MH Trust: Crisis Now Continuum of Care Crisis Stabilization Grants (FY25-FY26)
Section: Section 1
Type: IncT

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	500.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 500.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1037 GF/MH	500.0
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Explanation

The Crisis Now model is a best practice framework for developing and implementing crisis stabilization services for people experiencing a behavioral health crisis. These care grants will be awarded to entities that are partnering with the community to provide less restrictive options for people having a behavioral health crisis. These grants will unify community

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partners and develop a crisis stabilization system of care.

The Governor proposed, and the House Finance Health subcommittee approved, \$500,000 for these grants. \$500,000 more has been adopted, so this \$500,000 is the remaining amount of the Alaska Mental Health Trust request.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Medicaid Services
Allocation: Medicaid Services

Transaction Details

Title: Medicaid Rate Rebasing for Developmental Disability and Personal Care Services
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	15,000.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 15,000.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1002 Fed Rcpts	7,500.0
1003 GF/Match	7,500.0

Explanation

Last year, the legislature approved a \$15 million increment for Direct Service Provider and Personal Care Assistant rate increases. However, more funding is needed to maintain healthy rate increase that provide adequate funding in light of increased inflation. This

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amendment would appropriate \$7.5 million to match \$7.5 million in federal dollars, giving DPS and PCA rates a \$15 million increase.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Behavioral Health
Allocation: BH Treatment and Recovery Grants

Transaction Details

Title: Behavioral Health Care Rate Review Increases
Section: Section 1
Type: IncOTI

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	12,900.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 12,900.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1037 GF/MH	12,900.0
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Explanation

Behavioral healthcare is a vital and equal part of the healthcare system, and behavioral health treatment and recovery grants are crucial to thousands of underserved Alaskans to access essential treatment and services like medication and in-home care services. Alaskans with disabilities, family members, and other caregivers need access to timely behavioral health services.

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The Department of Health initiated a rate review intended to take effect in FY23 (July 2022). These rates have yet to be enacted. Community behavioral health providers are facing financial hardship due to a delay in rate adjustment. According to preliminary data from the Office of Rate Review for new potential rates, the delayed implementation has resulted in \$12.9 million in missed revenue for behavioral health providers over that time.

Consequently, providers have been operating with the same rates since 2018, which predates the pandemic and associated rise in service needs. This highlights the critical need for swift action in enacting the updated rates to ensure fair compensation for these essential services. The \$12.9 million to augment rates would rectify the missing payments and allow providers to maintain their capacity while waiting for the new rate methodologies.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Senior and Disabilities Svcs
Allocation: Governor's Cncl/Disabilities

Transaction Details

Title: MH Trust: Governor's Council on Disabilities Special Education Joint Staffing
Section: Section 1
Type: IncM

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	50.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 50.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1037 GF/MH	50.0
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Explanation

The Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education (GCDSE) is Federally funded to fulfill specific roles mandated by Congress. It is an expectation of the Mental Health Trust Authority that the GCDSE participate in planning, implementing, and funding a Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Plan that serves people with developmental

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disabilities and their families. The positions supported with this funding enable the GCDSE to provide up-to-date, valid information to the Trust on beneficiary issues, identify trends, participate in Trust activities, enhance public awareness, and engage in ongoing collaboration with the Trust and partner boards.

The Research Analyst 3 continues to provide the GCDSE with information about the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and supports state operating infrastructure. Activities of this position, including travel, ensure GCDSE efforts are conducted within the framework of the Mental Health Trust Authority's guiding principles while still meeting Congressional requirements.

The Planner 3 provides expertise and support related to the Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Plan for issues related to special education services and beneficiaries experiencing developmental disabilities. This position ensures the Trust has consistent access to critical comprehensive planning information and resources related to specific interests of beneficiary interests informed by the GCDSE.

The Governor requested, and the House Finance Health subcommittee approved, a \$50,000 GF/MH decrement to this appropriation. This amendment adds the Trust's request for GF/MH back into the budget.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Medicaid Services
Allocation: Medicaid Services

Transaction Details

Title: Restore Funding Associated with Abortions
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	90.7
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 90.7

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	90.7
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Explanation

Following the subcommittee process, this amount toward Medicaid was deducted from the allocation because it is the amount representing expenditures on abortion-related services during FY23. While the language is technically constitutional, the decrement is not. The Supreme Court has made it very clear that reproductive services include abortion services in Alaska, so this decrement will result in a cut to the entire appropriation and not to any

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abortion services. This is unfair to other Medicaid recipients receiving any other service.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Senior and Disabilities Svcs
Allocation: Senior Community Based Grants

Transaction Details

Title: Senior and Disabilities Grants Increase to Match Population Increase
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	998.3
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 998.3

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	998.3
---------------	-------

Explanation

Last year, the population of seniors over the age of 75 in Alaska increased by 5% last year alone. AGEnet has requested an increase equivalent to this fact (a 5% increase in community-based grants reflected in this amendment). These services help seniors with providing nutritious meals, daily safety checks, transportation, exercise classes, and light-housekeeping.

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Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Medicaid Services
Allocation: Medicaid Services

Transaction Details

Title: Restore General Fund Match for Medicaid Rate Increases
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	10,000.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 10,000.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1003 GF/Match	10,000.0
---------------	----------

Explanation

The House Finance Health Subcommittee decremented the Governor's request for \$21,000,000. A decrement of \$10,000,000 in GF reduces the state's ability to be reimbursed \$10,000,000 in Fed, effectively creating a \$20,000,000 cut to services. This original amount was predicated on the department's estimates for supporting the Medicaid program with rate increases and inflation calculated. Services to be affected by inadequate

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funding includes:

Resource-based Relative Value Scale (Physicians Services Rates)

Senior and Disability Services 3.7% Provider Rate Increase

Estimated Office of Rate Review Rates Increases (State and Federal Required
Provider-Specific Annual Rate Increases)

Community Behavioral Health Rate Increase Final

1115 Rate Increase 2025 (Inflationary)

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Medicaid Services
Allocation: Medicaid Services

Transaction Details

Title: Back-Funding for Federally Qualified Health Centers
Section: Section 1
Type: IncOTI

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	15,000.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 15,000.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	15,000.0
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Explanation

The Alaska Primary Care Association (APCA) requests an appropriation for interim support to begin to compensate Alaska Federal Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) for the Medicaid underpayment while the Department continues to work through a list of regulatory procedural payment errors continuing to impact FQHCs.

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Alaska's 29 Federally Qualified Health Centers, (also known as FQHCs, Community Health Centers or CHCs) operate 200 clinics across Alaska that offer medical, behavioral, and dental care to people in their communities -- even if they don't have insurance. Through federal legislation and regulation, the federal government set up a special way to pay these clinics when they treat a patient who has Medicaid coverage. It's called the Prospective Payment System, or PPS, and it's one payment for a collection of whole-person care and services within a visit, including translation services, transportation, and other support services.

Some Alaska FQHCs have opted to be paid under what is known as an Alternative Payment Methodology (APM), offered by the State of Alaska. Participation in the APM is voluntary, and the APM should result in a bundled payment that is equal to or more than the PPS rate.

The APCA claims these FHQC have received underpayment for years and that legal action will be taken if the legislature does not appropriate the proper funding. This amendment reimburses those payments.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Senior and Disabilities Svcs
Allocation: Senior/Disabilities Svcs Admin

Transaction Details

Title: Add Three Positions for Adult Protective Services (FY25-FY29)
Section: Section 1
Type: IncT

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	407.6
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 407.6

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	3

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1002 Fed Rcpts	203.8
1003 GF/Match	203.8

Explanation

In January 2024, the Alaska State Ombudsman released an investigative report that revealed deficiencies in the Department of Health's Adult Protective Services, which resulted in the death of an elder under their care. The Ombudsman's analysis substantiated the allegations and included recommendations to support APS to perform its

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duties sufficiently. Of the recommendations, the Ombudsman recommends adding funding for 3 permanent full-time positions to be funded for 5 years. This amendment adds funding for full-time temporary positions to match the recommendation of temporary funding. A future legislature may choose to reevaluate in FY30.

Each figure represents the cost of the salary, benefits, services, and commodities combined:

Protective Services Manager 2 - \$154,000/year, Range 22 The Ombudsman believes that the investigation warranted more oversight from APS supervisors and managers. This position could focus on APS initiatives, like program evaluation, staff training, and interpretation of policy and goals.

Quality Assurance Manager - \$147,000/year, Range 19 This position would assume staff management roles and create more opportunities for the APS Manager to work with community stakeholders, and service recipients to ensure values align with community's expectations.

Administrative Assistant 2 - \$106,000/year, Range 14 The Ombudsman recommends that APS develop and implement Multidisciplinary Teams (MDT), groups of professional experts who are committed to supporting the mission of the agency. This position would work to develop regional MDTs and forming community and stakeholder partnerships.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Ortiz

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Senior and Disabilities Svcs
Allocation: Senior Community Based Grants

Transaction Details

Title: Increase Funding for Adult Day Services
Section: Section 1
Type: IncOTI

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	2,000.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 2,000.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	2,000.0
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Explanation

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Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Senior and Disabilities Svcs
Allocation: Senior Community Based Grants

Transaction Details

Title: Funding for Centers for Independent Living
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	2,000.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 2,000.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1004 Gen Fund	2,000.0
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Explanation

\$1,498,200 has been appropriated for Independent Living centers that currently exist in the state. These centers are community-based, cross-disability, non-profit organizations that are designed and operated by people with disabilities. These are essential for seniors all across the state who need care and want to receive assistance in living independently.

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Support of existing Adult Day grantees and the expansion and development of Adult Day Services in underserved areas is needed to provide respite for unpaid caregivers and financial stabilization for families while Alaska's population ages. Expenditure data from FY21 to FY23 reflects positive cost trends, with the per-hour cost decreasing from \$40 to \$18. The State of Alaska can build on its efficiency by allocating this funding, enabling ADS grantees to serve more Alaskans, especially those who do not qualify for Medicaid. Additionally, this funding would facilitate the financial recovery of adult day centers still grappling with the aftermath of COVID-19 complications.

2024 Session Operating Budget Amendment

Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Senior and Disabilities Svcs
Allocation: Early Intervention Learning Prgm

Transaction Details

Title: Funding to Expand Outreach for the Alaska Infant Learning Program
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	0.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	750.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	0.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 750.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1037 GF/MH	750.0
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Explanation

This amendment proposal expands agency capacity for outreach and expansion for the Alaska Infant Learning Program. With this increment, DOH may expand outreach to families with children at risk or who experience developmental delays. Over the past 10 years ILP has received flat funding, which has not been adequate to keep up with inflation and the increased costs of running ILP programs and services.

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Early intervention has proven life-long benefits to program recipients; however, program participation rates remain low. Children from birth to 3 years are in the most important developmental phase of their lives. Support for early intervention efforts help to bring Alaska up to the national average for outcomes for young children with developmental disabilities.

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Offered In: The House Finance Committee
To: HB 268 / HB 270
Offered By: Representative Josephson

Agency: Health
Appropriation: Senior and Disabilities Svcs
Allocation: Early Intervention Learning Prgm

Transaction Details

Title: Funding to Expand and Implement Eligibility Criteria for the Infant Learning Program
Section: Section 1
Type: Inc

Line Items (Amounts are in thousands)

Personal Services:	215.0
Travel:	0.0
Services:	0.0
Commodities:	0.0
Capital Outlay:	0.0
Grants:	5,613.0
Miscellaneous:	0.0
	<hr/> 5,828.0

Positions

Permanent Full-Time:	0
Permanent Part-Time:	0
Temporary:	0

Funding (Amounts are in thousands)

1037 GF/MH	5,828.0
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Explanation

Alaska's ILP offers services to all children who meet Alaska's current eligibility criteria. All enrolled children receive, at a minimum, core services, as is required in state regulations and under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

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The Department of Seniors & Disability Services is exploring expansion of eligibility criteria for ILP to include additional diagnoses that qualify for automatic eligibility for the program. Funding to support these changes would be needed.

Examples of expanded criteria that would allow automatic eligibility for ILP services:

Low incidence: This includes expanding definitions of hearing loss to match school districts and would include unilateral hearing loss, expands the definition of vision impairment to include low vision, functional vision loss, nystagmus, and other vision concerns associated with developmental delay.

Newborns and infants: Infants born with extreme prematurity, very low birthweight, small for gestational age, and intrauterine growth retardation.

Complex medical needs: Infants with William's syndrome, CHARGE syndrome, hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy, craniosynostosis, and other similar medical complications.

The changes would result in a significant increase in enrollment that would bring Alaska's enrollment level closer to the national average.

Funding needed to support program stabilization and expansion to implement these changes:

\$2,914.0 general fund mental health.

\$2,699.0 to support grantees who provide local outreach, referral, and increased enrollment resulting from less stringent eligibility criteria.

\$215.0 to add one Health Program Manager position to support grantees who provide local outreach, referral, and increased enrollment resulting from less stringent eligibility criteria.