

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2025 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 64
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB064CS(STA)-OOG-DOE-4-04-2025
Title: ELECTIONS
Sponsor: RLS
Requester: (S) Finance

Department: Office of the Governor
Appropriation: Elections
Allocation: Elections
OMB Component Number: 21

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2026 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2026 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2026	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
Personal Services			181.2	141.2	141.2	141.2	141.2
Travel			5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Services			149.6	140.9	140.9	140.9	140.9
Commodities			3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	338.8	290.1	290.1	290.1	290.1

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)			338.8	290.1	290.1	290.1	290.1
Total	0.0	0.0	338.8	290.1	290.1	290.1	290.1

Positions

Full-time			1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Part-time							
Temporary			5.0		5.0		5.0

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2025) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2026) cost: 853.0 (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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 07/01/26

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

This fiscal note is based on the new amended version, adopted by (S) STA on 3/27/25. In this new version the requirement for a signature verification system was removed. The associated costs for this system have been removed from this new version. Revised numbers of the 2024 absentee ballots mailed are reflected in the note. Revised note also includes previously excluded costs that were omitted in error.

Prepared By:	Carol Beecher, Director	Phone:	(907)465-4611
Division:	Division of Elections	Date:	04/04/2025 02:00 PM
Approved By:	Cheri Lowenstein, Administrative Services Director	Date:	04/04/25
Agency:	Office of the Governor		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSSB064

Analysis

This bill proposes numerous changes to election laws that will impact the Division of Elections. Concerning specific changes that will result in fiscal impacts, the bill:

- Requires the division to hire a rural community liaison.
- Amends AS 15.20.030 relating to the preparation of ballots, envelopes, and other materials to provide for postage-paid, pre-addressed return envelopes for absentee ballots.
- Allows for the option of continuous absentee voting.
- Requires a ballot tracking system.
- Requires ballot drop boxes at each regional office.
- Implements a cure process for deficient ballots.
- Requires two new reports from the Division: a biennial audit of the master register and a one-time rural voting report.

All costs presented are unrestricted general fund. This fiscal note assumes legislation is enacted in 2025 allowing time to implement the required regulatory and system changes for the 2026 election.

Cost of staff required by this legislation:

One full-time position as rural community liaison, range 16	Annual Cost
Personal Services	\$ 101.2
Travel	\$ 5.0
Contractual Services	\$ 15.0
Commodities	<u>\$ 3.0</u>
Total Annual Cost	\$ 124.2

Five temporary staff for managing the cure process

Personal Services	FY27 Cost
	\$ 80.0

NOTE: Full cost first year (FY27); funding smoothed over two years thereafter.

Requiring postage-paid envelopes for all absentee ballots in all districts. The number of absentee vote envelopes is based on 2024 numbers.

	FY27 Cost
Primary Election: 12,828 absentee voters x 73-cent stamp/envelope =	\$ 9.3
General Election: 57,834 absentee voters x 73-cent stamp/envelope =	<u>\$42.2</u>
Contractual Services	\$51.5

NOTE: Full cost first year (FY27); funding smoothed over two years thereafter.

	Annual Cost
REAA Election: 5,930 absentee voters x 73-cent stamp/envelope =	<u>\$ 4.3</u>
Contractual Services	\$ 4.3

New posters to change wording removing hunting & fishing licenses and adding Tribal ID as acceptable forms of identification

	One time cost
P06 posters (2 posted at each precinct) \$8.67 x 804	\$ 7.0
P06A posters (posted at each absentee-in-person and early vote site)	<u>\$ 2.2</u>
\$6.42 x 337	
Total one-time contractual services cost	\$ 9.2

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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Analysis

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Ballot Drop Box Ongoing Costs	FY27 Cost	
Ballot Drop Box Storage (annual cost)	\$ 7.1	
Moving (to site/from site biennial cost)	<u>\$ 2.5</u>	TOTAL
Ballot Drop Box cost	\$ 9.6	

NOTE: Biennial item full cost first year (FY27); funding smoothed over two years thereafter.

New Interface Software Maintenance Cost	Annual Cost
	\$ 50.0

FY 26 Capital Costs for new systems or contractual services required by this legislation:	FY26 Capital
Ballot Tracking System and software (first year and 10.0 each year after)	\$ 100.0
Ballot Drop Boxes	\$ 23.0
Legislative report early voting in rural precinct (one time funding needed in FY26)	\$ 65.0
Subject matter expert auditor (biennial after FY26)	\$ 65.0

FY26 Capital IT costs for interfacing with other state data and federal systems to include:

- USPS Postal Service Forwarding Data
- Property and Sales Tax data
- Jury Duty records
- National Change of Address Records
- DMV records database
- Department of Corrections

TOTAL Interface capital costs	<u>\$ 600.0</u>
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Note: Estimated ongoing maintenance cost of \$50.0 per year beginning FY27.

TOTAL Capital Costs	\$ 853.0
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