

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2025 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 53
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB53-DPS-APSC-4-4-2025
Title: LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
ACCREDITATION
Sponsor: GRAY-JACKSON
Requester: State Affairs

Department: Department of Public Safety
Appropriation: Alaska Police Standards Council
Allocation: Alaska Police Standards Council
OMB Component Number: 519

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	682.8		682.8	682.8	682.8	682.8	682.8
Travel	65.0		65.0	65.0	65.0	65.0	65.0
Services	80.0		80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0
Commodities	97.0		5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	924.8	0.0	832.8	832.8	832.8	832.8	832.8

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	924.8		832.8	832.8	832.8	832.8	832.8
Total	924.8	0.0	832.8	832.8	832.8	832.8	832.8

Positions

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

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2026) 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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?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:

N/A - initial version

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Agency: Department of Public Safety

Phone: (907)465-5523
Date: 04/04/2025
Date: 04/04/25

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 53

Analysis

This bill requires all law enforcement agencies in Alaska, including municipal police departments, Alaska State Trooper posts, Village Public Safety Officer posts, and Regional Public Safety Officer posts, to obtain and maintain accreditation. The bill establishes a three-tiered accreditation framework and assigns the Alaska Police Standards Council, or APSC, the responsibility to oversee the program. Accreditation standards must be based on nationally recognized models, including those developed by the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, also known as CALEA.

The bill outlines required compliance areas such as use of force, bias-based policing, internal investigations, pursuit policies, and the use of body-worn cameras. Law enforcement agencies must achieve at least Tier 1 accreditation by January 1, 2027. After that date, agencies that are not accredited may no longer be eligible for grant funding from the Department of Public Safety.

APSC currently serves as the regulatory body for officer certification in Alaska. The council sets minimum hiring and training standards for police, correctional, probation, parole, and municipal correctional officers. APSC certifies officers, investigates allegations of misconduct, and supports law enforcement training. However, APSC does not currently manage accreditation for agencies or track compliance with organizational standards.

If enacted, this bill would significantly expand APSC's mission. To carry out the bill's requirements, APSC would need to develop or adopt an accreditation framework, or formally implement the use of external standards such as those from CALEA or the Northwest Accreditation Alliance. APSC would also need to create a permanent operational unit to manage accreditation responsibilities. This unit would provide technical support to approximately 50 to 60 law enforcement agencies, with a focus on assisting rural and under-resourced departments. APSC would be required to track agency progress, maintain documentation, and potentially conduct audits or validation reviews.

These responsibilities would require new staff and program infrastructure. APSC anticipates needing five full-time positions to implement and sustain the accreditation program. These staff members would assist agencies statewide with the accreditation process, oversee documentation, and ensure compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements.

While individual law enforcement agencies will be responsible for paying their own accreditation fees, APSC is directed under the bill to help rural agencies secure funding. The administrative work associated with this support will further increase the need for staff and program oversight.

To staff and operate this program, APSC would require the following positions (\$ in thousands):

One Statewide Coordinator 2 to oversee the program and provide strategic direction, aligned with the classification's emphasis on independent program management and interagency coordination (\$143.8).

One Administrative Assistant 3 to provide high-level clerical and scheduling support, consistent with duties described for executive-level administrative work (\$107.5).

Three Criminal Justice Technician 2 positions to assist agencies with technical compliance, data tracking, and support during the accreditation process. This class typically supports certification and records management functions within public safety agencies (\$431.5 total).

Additional costs include:

Travel for 40 in-state trips annually to support agencies directly (\$60.0), and 2 out-of-state trips for professional

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Contractual services to support accreditation operations, estimated at \$16.0 per position annually (\$80.0).

Initial commodities in year one for computers and workstations at \$18.4 each (\$92.0), and ongoing office supplies of \$1.0 per position each year including year one (\$5.0 annually).

Total Year 1 cost: \$924.8

Total Years 2 through 5 cost: \$832.8 annually

Funding Support for Rural and Small Agencies, (not included in cost estimates)

In addition to its oversight role, APSC is directed under this bill to assist rural law enforcement agencies in securing funding necessary to obtain and maintain accreditation. Rural agencies, as defined in the bill, are located in communities with a population of 7,000 or fewer that are not connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks.

Accreditation costs vary depending on the size of the department and the accrediting body. For example, the initial assessment fees range from approximately \$8.5 for agencies with 1 to 24 officers to more than \$11.0 for medium-sized agencies, with annual continuation fees of \$3.5 to \$4.0. These fees do not include the internal workload of preparing for accreditation, developing compliant policies, purchasing equipment like body-worn cameras, or conducting internal audits.