

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 83
Fiscal Note Number:
() Publish Date:

Identifier: SB083-DOA-DRB-01-31-2026
Title: TELEHEALTH: COVERAGE, REIMBURSEMENT RATES
Sponsor: CLAMAN
Requester: (H) HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Department: Department of Administration
Appropriation: Centralized Administrative Services
Allocation: Retirement and Benefits
OMB Component Number: 64

Expenditures/Revenues

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

(Thousands of Dollars)

| | FY2027 Appropriation Requested | Included in Governor's FY2027 Request | Out-Year Cost Estimates | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|
| | | | FY 2027 | FY 2027 | FY 2028 | FY 2029 | FY 2030 |
| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2027 | | | | | | |
| Personal Services | | | | | | | |
| Travel | | | | | | | |
| Services | | | | | | | |
| Commodities | | | | | | | |
| Capital Outlay | | | | | | | |
| Grants & Benefits | | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | | | |
| Total Operating | 0.0 | | 0.0 | | 0.0 | | 0.0 |

Fund Source (Operating Only)

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|------------|--|------------|--|------------|--|------------|
| None | | | | | | | |
| Total | 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 |

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2026) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2027) 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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 07/01/26

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Update to FY2026 template.

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Agency: Department of Administration

Phone: (907)465-3225
Date: 01/31/2026
Date: 01/31/26

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB083

Analysis

This bill seeks to legislate an insurance benefit removing some discretion from plan sponsors and stakeholders. As written, this bill appears to require coverage of telemedicine services by plans that may not currently cover telemedicine services. As such, this bill may result in adding an unfunded liability to some plans in Alaska. This bill does not include specific standards for covered telemedicine services which could result in confusion between providers and payors leaving Alaskan patients in the middle. Requiring payment parity for the level of telemedicine services covered by plans, if any, would be a viable option.

The AlaskaCare plans are already compliant with the provisions of this bill. As such, this would not represent a net change in plan costs.

The Division can't overstate the importance of not subordinating the Commissioner of the Department of Administration to the Director of the Division of Insurance and not tying the benefits provided under Title 39 to the insurance standards provided in Title 21. The standards in title 21 are intended to set boundaries for insurance companies operating in Alaska. The Commissioner of the Department of Administration is the AlaskaCare plan administrator, and the plans are self-funded, therefore the benefits provided under Title 39 are already governed by the state of Alaska and it is not necessary to subordinate them to insurance statutes to exercise state control over them.