

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 278  
Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier: HB278-DCCED-COM-02-13-26  
Title: ECONOMIC DEV:AK-IRELAND TRADE COMM.  
Sponsor: COSTELLO  
Requester: (H) State Affairs

Department: Department of Commerce, Community and  
Economic Development  
Appropriation: Executive Administration  
Allocation: Commissioner's Office  
OMB Component Number: 1027

**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 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services								
Travel	46.8		39.0	39.0	39.0	39.0	39.0	39.0
Services	53.3							
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>39.0</b>

**Fund Source (Operating Only)**

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	100.1		39.0	39.0	39.0	39.0	39.0	39.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>39.0</b>

**Positions**

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

**Change in Revenues**

None	***		***	***	***	***	***	***
<b>Total</b>	<b>***</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>***</b>	<b>***</b>	<b>***</b>	<b>***</b>	<b>***</b>	<b>***</b>

**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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? N/A

**Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:**

Not applicable, initial version.

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Division:	Division of Administrative Services	Date:	02/13/2026
Approved By:	Hannah Lager, Administrative Services Director	Date:	02/13/26
Agency:	Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 278

**Analysis**

This bill creates an Alaska-Ireland Trade Commission, which consist of five members appointed by the Governor. The Commission is charged with advancing, promoting, initiating, and encouraging trade, investment, economic support, business, and academic exchange and investment between Alaska and Ireland. The Commission is tasked with submitting a report of their findings, results, and recommendations to the Legislature at the beginning of the 35<sup>th</sup> annual Legislature in 2027.

Members of the Commission are presumed to serve without compensation, so no personal services costs are included. The Commission will be supported by staff in the Commissioner's Office. Given the short timeframe for the Commission to convene, evaluate recommendations, and provide a report to the legislature, contractual services for limited support for the Commission and for contractual report writing and analysis will be required. The Commission is expected to meet six times per year in the first year, two of which are projected to occur in-state at a location that requires travel for the Commission and staff. In FY2028 and future years, meetings are projected at four times per year, with one meeting at a location that requires travel.

Costs for contractual support and report writing are based on the FY2023 expenditures for the Alaska Food Strategy Task Force (AFSTF), which met six times over a 6-month period. As the Alaska-Ireland Trade Commission is significantly smaller than the AFSTF but is working on a similar timeframe, these expenditures are projected at one-third of the FY2023 AFSTF expenditures.

International travel to Ireland for the members of the Commission and one department staff member to visit Ireland once per year are included, and estimated as travel from Anchorage to Dublin. Travel includes airfare, hotel, transportation, and per diem for a seven day travel event.

A language appropriation authorizing collection of Statutory Designated Program Receipts (SDPR) in the Commissioner's Office will be needed to receive gifts, bequests, or grants from private parties. Any SDPR collected that is not otherwise designated for specific purpose (like a specified bequest or a grant) will be used to offset general fund expenditures. For purposes of this fiscal note, SDPR revenues are projected as indeterminate as the source or purpose of donations is not currently known.

**COST ESTIMATES**

<b>Travel:</b>	\$31.2	One trip to Ireland per year for 5 Commission members and 1 staff member (\$5.2 per trip per person)
	\$15.6	Two in-state trips in FY2027 for 5 Commission members and 1 staff member (\$1.3 per trip per person)
	\$ 7.8	One in-state trip in FY2028 and beyond for 5 Commission members and 1 staff member (\$1.3 per trip per person)
<b>Services:</b>	\$53.3	Contractual support and report writing required in FY2027 only