

Proposal to Disband Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol (ABHP)

Budget impact:

- FY15 budgeted savings -2,200.0 (-987.9 Personal services, -184.1 Travel, -910.2 Services, -117.8 Commodities)
- ABHP has a total of 19 trooper positions (including a lieutenant and 3 sergeants) as well as several administrative positions.
- Lieutenant is based in Anchorage, remaining troopers are based in Fairbanks, Wasilla, Girdwood, and Soldotna.
- All positions (including civilians) would be released from ABHP and reassigned to the local trooper detachment (regional headquarters) where they would be assigned to normal patrol duties.
- Immediate operational impact is more troopers responding to all types of service calls in these areas.
- High profile highway enforcement would be achieved by use of remaining ABHP funding for targeted traffic enforcement patrols using troopers on overtime. This is similar to the targeted traffic enforcement model used prior to creation of the ABHP.
- As the 19 trooper positions become vacant through normal transfers, reassignments, or other turnover, the positions would be reclassified into civilian positions with an emphasis on those types of positions that would enable patrol troopers to spend more time patrolling and have less down time for administrative duties.
- As initially envisioned, there is no specific timeframe for trooper positions becoming vacant.
- Once vacant, positions would likely remain unfilled while reclassifications are under way, for maximum FY15 savings, i.e., no reclassifications in anticipation of vacancies.
- Budgeted personal services savings in FY15 is approximately 47% of total budgeted GF in ABHP trooper positions. (Average budgeted GF per trooper position is 114.4, median 114.6)

Service impact

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- Initial increase in responses to “normal” calls for service in high population areas.
- Long term GF budget savings

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- Significant reduction to a high profile enforcement program with a track record of making highways safer and reducing serious injury and fatality crashes.
- No dedicated 24/7 high visibility proactive traffic enforcement in traffic safety corridors or during high traffic volume events and holidays.
- Short term increase in routine patrol presence is eliminated as trooper positions are reclassified.
- Net loss of 19 trooper positions.
- Net personal services savings from reclassifying trooper positions to civilian positions will depend on final classification action. Specific types of civilian positions have not yet been identified.
- Full savings might not be fully realized in FY15.