

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2014 Legislative Session

Bill Version: CSHB 127(STA)
Fiscal Note Number: 3
(H) Publish Date: 3/10/14

Identifier: HB127-DOA-OPA-01-21-14
Title: OMBUDSMAN
Sponsor: RLS BY REQUEST
Requester: House State Affairs

Department: Department of Administration
Appropriation: Legal and Advocacy Services
Allocation: Office of Public Advocacy
OMB Component Number: 43

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2015	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2015 Request	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2015	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services			25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund			25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0
Total	0.0	0.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues							
---------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2014) cost: 0.0

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2015) cost: 0.0

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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Updated for 2nd session to accurately reflect FY2015 and out year costs.
--

Prepared By:	Richard Allen, Director	Phone:	(907)269-3504
Division:	Office of Public Advocacy	Date:	09/13/2013 11:25 PM
Approved By:	Curtis Thayer, Acting Commissioner	Date:	01/10/14
Agency:	Department of Administration		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS #3

STATE OF ALASKA
2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSHB 127(STA)

Analysis

This bill places the Alaska Bar Association under the jurisdiction of the Ombudsman's Office. The bill also purports to prevent the waiver of the attorney-client privilege if such information is provided to the Ombudsman's office and to prevent further disclosure by the Ombudsman's office.

This bill would likely make attorney responses to bar grievances subject to disclosure to the Ombudsman's office should that office conduct an investigation into the Bar Association's action on a grievance filed against an attorney. This would prevent attorneys from fully responding to bar grievances due to the risk that client confidences would be revealed to a third-party in violation of Alaska Code of Professional Conduct.

The failure to respond fully to bar grievances is likely to result in additional expenses surrounding litigation of proper response to bar grievances and increased acceptance of grievances for investigation. The Office of Public Advocacy anticipates increased litigation with the passage of the bill, and would need to hire someone on a flat fee basis to litigate as necessary. Estimated costs: \$25,000.00/year.