

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2020 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 76
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB076-JUD-ACS-01-29-20
Title: REPEAL WORKERS' COMP APPEALS
COMMISSION
Sponsor: WIELECHOWSKI
Requester: Senate Labor & Commerce

Department: Judiciary
Appropriation: Alaska Court System
Allocation: Trial Courts
OMB Component Number: 768

Expenditures/Revenues

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

	FY2021	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2021 Request	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2021	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	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	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2020) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2021) 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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Not applicable - initial version.

Prepared By: <u>Nancy Meade, General Counsel</u>	Phone: <u>(907)463-4736</u>
Division: <u>Alaska Court System</u>	Date: <u>01/29/2020 11:00 PM</u>
Approved By: <u>Nancy Meade for Stacey Marz, Administrative Director</u>	Date: <u>01/29/20</u>
Agency: <u>Alaska Court System</u>	

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2020 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 76

Analysis

Senate Bill 76 would eliminate the Alaska Workers' Compensation Appeals Commission currently housed within the Department of Labor, and transfer jurisdiction over appeals pending in that Commission and all future appeals from the decisions of the Workers' Compensation Board to the superior court.

According to a Legislative Research Services Report, an average of 32 appeals per year were handled by the Commission over a recent 12-year period. The court system therefore anticipates that, under this bill, the superior court would be handling an additional 32 administrative appeals from the Board each year, on average. These additional cases would be presided over by a superior court judge; we anticipate that the impact of these new cases would be spread across jurisdictions and could be handled by our superior court judges without additional resources.

The court system does not anticipate that this bill would change the caseload of the Supreme Court, which already currently handles appeals from the Commission. Its jurisdiction would not be altered under this bill; the appeals would simply come from the superior court instead of from the Commission.

The court system anticipates that it will be able to absorb the increased caseload into its operations without a fiscal impact, and therefore submits this zero fiscal note. If this bill becomes law, the court system will monitor the actual number of these appeals that are filed, to determine whether the impacts exceed current expectations.