

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2020 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 176
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB176-DEC-SPAR-03-02-20
Title: REGULATE PFAS USE; FIRE/WATER SAFETY
Sponsor: KIEHL
Requester: Senate Resources Committee

Department: Department of Environmental Conservation
Appropriation: Spill Prevention and Response
Allocation: Spill Prevention and Response
OMB Component Number: 3094

Expenditures/Revenues

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

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2021 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2021 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2021	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Personal Services	634.8		634.8	634.8	634.8	634.8	634.8
Travel	10.0		10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Services	9,747.5		10,718.2	11,786.1	12,960.6	14,252.7	15,674.0
Commodities	45.0		3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	10,437.3	0.0	11,366.0	12,433.9	13,608.4	14,900.5	16,321.8

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	10,437.3		11,366.0	12,433.9	13,608.4	14,900.5	16,321.8
Total	10,437.3	0.0	11,366.0	12,433.9	13,608.4	14,900.5	16,321.8

Positions

Full-time	6.0		6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?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: Laura Achee, Legislative Liaison
Division: Commissioner's Office
Approved By: Ruth Kostik, Administrative Services Director
Agency: Office of Management and Budget

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Date: 03/02/20

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2020 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 176

Analysis

The bill defines and establishes concentration limits for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in drinking water. It requires that the Department of Environmental Conservation periodically test all drinking water in areas where PFAS has been released near a drinking water source. If results are above the limits established by the bill, it requires the Department to provide alternative drinking water and voluntary blood testing at no cost. The bill also requires that the Department ensures PFAS-exposed responders are provided voluntary blood testing. It prohibits the use of PFAS containing firefighting substances once no longer required by federal law. The bill would require the Department to publish public notice when the use of a firefighting substance that contains PFAS is no longer required by federal law and accept for disposal up to 25 gallons annually of PFAS containing firefighting substances from a person domiciled in Alaska.

Existing statutes and regulations provide the Department the authority to require responsible parties to test drinking water in order to determine whether the hazardous substance poses a health risk and, if so, to require provision of an alternative drinking water source or treated water. This bill shifts the burden for testing and providing alternative drinking water from responsible parties to the Department. As a result, there would be a significant increase in annual expenditures. Since the extent of PFAS contamination in Alaska is unknown, there is uncertainty in calculating annual expenditure amounts.

Personal Services:

The Division of Spill Prevention and Response would require six additional positions at the Environmental Program Specialist III level to manage the anticipated workload associated with PFAS testing, monitoring, characterization, and assessment activities.

Travel:

Travel would be required for program staff to conduct outreach, investigation, training, assessment, and site characterization activities.

Contractual:

Contractual costs include water sampling and testing of sites where PFAS has been released, as well as providing alternative sources of drinking water to those relying on impacted drinking water wells. The Department would also need to contract with a third party to dispose of PFAS containing firefighting substances. The Department does not have expertise to provide blood monitoring. That work would need to be contracted out to a third party or other State agency through a reimburseable services agreement. The Department anticipates consulting with the Department of Law frequently in identifying site ownership. As the testing continues, the universe of impacted sites would be expected to continue to grow, increasing these contractual costs each year.

Commodities:

Supply costs reflect new employee costs in the first year, and general office supplies in the out years.