

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2020 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	CSSB 241(RLS)
Fiscal Note Number:	12
(S) Publish Date:	3/24/2020

Identifier: SB241CS(RLS)-DHSS-MS-3-23-2020  
Title: EXTENDING COVID 19 DISASTER EMERGENCY  
Sponsor: RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR  
Requester: (S) RLS

Department: Department of Health and Social Services  
Appropriation: Medicaid Services  
Allocation: Medicaid Services  
OMB Component Number: 3234

## 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							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## Fund Source (Operating Only)

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

## Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

## Change in Revenues

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

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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?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

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

This fiscal note reflects the change of the public health disaster emergency declaration extension from one year to six months.

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Phone: (907)465-1629  
Date: 03/23/2020  
Date: 03/23/20

## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2020 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## Analysis

This bill extends for six months the public health emergency the Governor declared on March 11, 2020 related to the COVID-19 pandemic health response and economic stabilization. The bill is effective immediately and retroactive to April 10, 2020.

This bill will do the following:

- Extends the public health disaster emergency under AS 26.23.020(c) until September 1, 2020. When there is no longer an imminent threat, the Governor shall issue a proclamation ending the disaster emergency.
- Allows the DHSS Chief Medical Officer to issue standing orders related to COVID-19. Standing orders are effective until retracted or the emergency declaration extension ends. The Chief Medical Officer and health care providers are not liable for civil damages for issuing or acting under a standing order, except for misconduct.
- The Governor must submit a monthly report to the Legislature beginning May 1, 2020 identifying all actions taken by the administration related to the prevention, control and status of COVID-19.
- Allows the DHSS Commissioner to waive any state law or regulation related to telehealth or telemedicine if compliance would substantially prevent or impede health care services.

## Funding:

An increase of federal authority for Medicaid is anticipated to help pay for an increase in Medicaid Services as the U.S. House of Representatives passed a stimulus package to address economic effects of the COVID-19 outbreak. The package, which has the support of the White House, is expected to have a Senate vote in the coming days. It will include a temporary Medicaid FMAP increase of 6.2 percentage points and requires Medicaid to provide coverage for COVID-19 testing at no cost to the beneficiary. State expenditures for medical and administrative costs will be matched by the federal government at 100 percent.

This additional federal authority will allow the department to increase federal collections to offset unrestricted general fund expenditures in FY2020. A zero-dollar estimate is included due to uncertainty on the timing and amount of increased federal receipts.