

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2024 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 219
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: HB219-DOLWD-SP-03-18-24
Title: REPEAL ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY LOAN PROGRAM
Sponsor: SADDLER
Requester: (H) FIN

Department: Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Appropriation: Vocational Rehabilitation
Allocation: Special Projects
OMB Component Number: 1958

Expenditures/Revenues

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

	FY2025 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2025 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
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	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None								
Total	0.0	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	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2024) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2025) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*

Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account? Yes
(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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?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:

Provides expanded analysis regarding the Assistive Technology Loan Fund and why changes to the fund do not have an impact to the division.

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Division:	Vocational Rehabilitation	Date:	03/15/2024
Approved By:	Dan DeBartolo, Director	Date:	03/18/24
Agency:	DOLWD Administrative Services		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 219

Analysis

This legislation would repeal the Assistive Technology Loan Fund (ATLF) for the purpose of improving access to assistive technology by making it available for management by a non-state entity. The Assistive Technology Loan Fund (ATLF) balance is currently tracked with an IRIS fund code of 3213, but there are no active appropriations. Repeal of the fund will have no foreseeable impact on the operations of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Special Projects component as this program, which originated in 1997, has not been utilized since 2014.

The division initially established the fund with \$291,630 in federal receipts from the Assistive Technology federal grant award, and then was recapitalized in 2002 with \$100.0 in general funds. The program was set up to allow loans from a commercial bank to be made to a qualified individual for which the ATLF could be used to subsidize the interest rate at a time when rates were very high, making the loan affordable for the borrower. The ATLF could also be used to guarantee up to 90% of the loan.

The program is available to individuals with disabilities or their representatives. None of the funds can be used to advertise the program, and because there are non-profits with better reach to Alaskans with disabilities for this purpose, the fund is no longer utilized by the department.