

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2024 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 231
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB231-DOH-RL-03-22-24
Title: MINORS & RESIDENT PSYCH TREATMENT
CENTERS
Sponsor: CLAMAN
Requester: (S) HSS

Department: Department of Health
Appropriation: Health Care Services
Allocation: Residential Licensing
OMB Component Number: 245

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 2026 | FY 2027 | FY 2028 | FY 2029 | FY 2030 |
| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2025 | FY 2025 | FY 2026 | FY 2027 | FY 2028 | FY 2029 | FY 2030 |
| Personal Services | 27.2 | | 108.9 | 108.9 | 108.9 | 108.9 | 108.9 |
| Travel | | | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Services | 3.5 | | 14.0 | 14.0 | 14.0 | 14.0 | 14.0 |
| Commodities | 5.2 | | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Capital Outlay | | | | | | | |
| Grants & Benefits | | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | | | |
| Total Operating | 35.9 | 0.0 | 123.9 | 123.9 | 123.9 | 123.9 | 123.9 |

Fund Source (Operating Only)

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1004 Gen Fund (UGF) | 35.9 | | 123.9 | 123.9 | 123.9 | 123.9 | 123.9 |
| Total | 35.9 | 0.0 | 123.9 | 123.9 | 123.9 | 123.9 | 123.9 |

Positions

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Full-time | 1.0 | | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Part-time | | | | | | | |
| Temporary | | | | | | | |

Change in Revenues

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| None | | | | | | | |
| Total | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (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? 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? Yes
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 07/01/25

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Not applicable; initial version.

| | | | |
|--------------|---|--------|---------------|
| Prepared By: | Renee Gayhart, Division Director | Phone: | (907)465-1184 |
| Division: | Health Care Services | Date: | 03/22/2024 |
| Approved By: | Josephine Stern, Assistant Commissioner | Date: | 03/22/24 |
| Agency: | Department of Health | | |

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB231

Analysis

This bill establishes a residential psychiatric treatment center patient's right to weekly video conferencing with a parent or guardian and establishes two new licensing requirements – semi-annual licensing inspections and interviews with fifty percent of patients during each inspection.

This bill will require one full-time Community Care Licensing Specialist 1 to perform the semi-annual inspection requirement, interviews, and any investigations. The purpose of the residential licensing section is to ensure that residential care facilities, including residential psychiatric treatment centers, meet state and federal standards and to determine the ability of each facility to safely provide services.

Although some inspections include speaking with residents, residential licensing staff are not clinically trained, and will need training to prepare them to perform interviews with minors with psychiatric conditions. Residential Licensing staff do not have culture awareness training, trauma informed care training, or pediatric psychological and development training. These trainings are important and necessary to maintain professional boundaries and safety for the staff and client. The key to successful interaction with a psychiatric patient is to be aware of behaviors, triggers, and diagnosis. These trainings can be found online or in-person; these trainings would be assigned to all Residential Licensing staff to ensure there is always staff prepared to manage this workload regardless of vacancies.

This bill also requires a residential psychiatric treatment center to report to the department, in writing, each use of seclusion or restraint, however the bill does not specify a deadline for reporting and does not indicate what the department is expected to do with this information. This bill also requires a center to notify a parent or guardian, within one business day, when restraint or seclusion is used.

Should this bill pass, the Division of Health Care Services will need to amend regulations; the associated costs can be absorbed.

Financial Breakdown One full-time Community Care Licensing Specialist 1 (including benefits), range 16, located in Anchorage: \$108.9 to conduct inspections, perform interviews, and investigations as outlined in this bill annually, beginning April 1, 2025 to be trained by July 1, 2025 for implementation of regulations and commencement of inspections. The division anticipates being able to fill this position by April 1, 2025 which would result in three months of salary and benefits at \$27.2.

Travel: Mileage for staff to travel to and from residential psychiatric treatment centers \$0.5 annually beginning in FY2026.

Services: Office space, phone, reimbursable service agreements for position support: \$14.0 annually, beginning April 1, 2025.

Commodities: Office Supplies \$0.5 annually, beginning in FY2026.

One-Time Commodities Cost: Computer, software, and office equipment: \$5.2 in the first year.