Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2023 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 38
Fiscal Note Number:
() Publish Date:

Identifier: SB38-DPS-DET-01-20-2023
Title: INTERFERENCE WITH EMERGENCY SERVICES
Sponsor: WILSON
Requester:

Department: Department of Public Safety
Appropriation: Alaska State Troopers
Allocation: Dispatch Services
OMB Component Number: 3346

Expenditures/Revenues

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

	FY2024 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2024 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	**FY 2024**	**FY 2024**	**FY 2025**	**FY 2026**	**FY 2027**	**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**
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 (FY2023) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2024) 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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?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.

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Division: Statewide Services — Date: 01/20/2023
Approved By: Pam Halloran, Administrative Services Director — Date: 01/20/23
Agency: Department of Public Safety

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA **BILL NO.** SB 37
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Analysis

This bill deters the misuse and abusive calls that cause disruption to 911 dispatch centers and appropriately holds offenders accountable by criminalizing conduct relating to interference with emergency communications. Interference with emergency communications creates situations that can delay response time to real emergencies. During these disruptive events, other urgent emergency calls must be placed on hold or delayed in order to meet the industry standard that all calls must be answered within 15-20 seconds.

Current laws do not address harassing behavior specific to 911 emergency dispatch centers and dispatch personnel. To charge under harassment in the second degree (AS 11.61.120), dispatchers must file individually as the victims of harassment which gives the harassing individual access to a dispatcher's first and last names through court records rather than protecting their anonymity. The crime of false information or report (AS 11.56.800) does not cover incidents where harassment or other disruptive calls are made but no report or information was provided.

Having a specific statute that addresses calls that intentionally interfere with emergency communications can help reduce this problem and allow 911 dispatchers to focus on doing their best to assist with legitimate emergencies.

There is no fiscal impact.