

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1999 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 6
Bill Version: CSSB 4 (JUD)
(S) Publish Date: 1/25/99

Revision Date: _____
Title: "An Act establishing an office of victims' rights..."
Sponsor: Senator Halford
Requestor: (S) JUD

Department Affected: Administration
BRU: Legal and Advocacy Services
Component: Public Defender Agency

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 1631

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
PERSONAL SERVICES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE:

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
OTHER						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY 98) cost: \$ _____

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

See attached sheet.

Prepared by: Barbara Brink, Director
Division: Public Defender Agency

Phone: (907) 264-4414
Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: Robert Poe Jr.
Agency: Department of Administration

Date: 1/22/99

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STATE OF ALASKA

BILL NO. SB 4 #6

1999 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

ANALYSIS: (continued)

This bill would create an Office of Victims' Rights as a legislative agency. The Victims' Advocate would have broad powers to act as an attorney for victims of crime to enforce constitutional guarantees and make statements on behalf of victims in court. It is difficult to say whether or not there would be any fiscal impact on the Public Defender Agency (PDA) as a result of this bill. PDA believes that much of what the Victims' Advocate would do is currently being done by Victim/Witness Coordinators in the Department of Law. If the Victim/Witness Coordinators' work is done by another agency, there should be no fiscal impact on PDA.

Somewhat troubling is Section 9 which disqualifies any misdemeanants from obtaining a PFD if they have a prior felony conviction or two prior misdemeanors. The end result is that an individual victim of an offense is much less likely to get their court-ordered restitution if an offender may not directly assign their PFD check to them. While these funds may then be allocated to the Office of Victims' Rights, the contribution would likely be small. It may be more in an individual victim's interests to have that assignment directly made.