

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2000 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 2  
Bill Version: SB 224  
(S) Publish Date: 1-26-00

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected: Health and Social Services  
Title: Confidentiality of children's proceedings BRU: Family & Youth Services  
Sponsor: Rules Committee Component: FYS Management  
Requestor: Governor COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 2306  
See also (SN#): 2307

**Expenditures/Revenues:** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006
PERSONAL SERVICES	26.1	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL	64.2	56.7	56.7	56.7	56.7	56.7
SUPPLIES	0.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
EQUIPMENT	11.0					
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>101.8</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>163.2</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
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<b>CHANGES IN REVENUES</b>	1002		***	***	***	***
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	101.8	163.2	163.2	163.2	163.2	163.2
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (please specify)						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>101.8</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>163.2</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2000) cost: \$0.0

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME	2	2	2	2	2	2
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Section 17 of the bill authorizes the department to release summaries of information contained in reports of harm if the summary does not contain any information that would readily lead to the identification of 1) the person who made the report of harm; 2) the child; 3) the child's parents or siblings and members of the child's household; or 4) the alleged perpetrator.

The Department has previously published a one-time publication called "Alaska's Children of a Hidden War" which consists of summary information gathered from reports of harm statewide. To comply with Section 17 of the bill, the Department will periodically publish summary information in a format similar to "Alaska's Children of a Hidden War" and make the publication widely available to the public.

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Division: Office of the Commissioner Date/Time: 1/24/00 3:09 PM

Approved by Commissioner:  Date: 1/24/00  
Agency: Department of Health & Social Services

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**ANALYSIS (cont.):**

Regular publication of this information will require the assistance of a Public Information Officer (Range 20) and an Administrative Clerk (Range 10) since gathering and compiling this information (over 17,000 reports of harm annually) is extremely time consuming. The proposed effective date of the bill is 7/1/01. The Department would establish the two positions in the fourth quarter of FY 01 to begin implementation of procedures and to provide for a training period.

The one-time cost for equipment for the two new positions include a computer, telephone and a desk and chair. Ongoing contractual services costs include: telephone charges for basic service and long distance calls and office supplies. Additional funding will also be required to develop and promulgate implementing regulations, train staff, and develop internal policies, procedures and forms regarding the release of confidential information.

**Expenditure Analysis (Family & Youth Services Mgmt. Comp. #2306):**

	<u>Annual Cost</u> <u>FY01</u>	<u>Annual Cost</u> <u>FY02-06</u>
<b>Personal Services:</b>		
Information Officer III (established the position in the 4th quarter of FY2001)	16.8	67.1
Admin Clerk III - (established the position in the 4th quarter of FY2001)	<u>9.4</u>	<u>37.4</u>
Subtotal	26.1	104.5
<b>Contractual Services:</b>		
Telephone (monthly basic & long distance)	0.8	3.1
Printing Cost of quarterly publication of reports of harm	13.4	53.6
Technical assistance to draft regulations	<u>50.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>
Subtotal	64.2	56.7
<b>Supplies:</b>		
Office supplies:	0.5	2.0
<b>Equipment: (for 2 new positions)</b>		
Computers	6.0	0.0
Telephones/communication equipment:	1.0	0.0
Desk & office chairs	<u>4.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>
Subtotal	11.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	101.8	163.2

**\*\*\*Changes in Revenues:**

In opening child protection proceedings as proposed, the Department does incur some risk relating to compliance with federal confidentiality requirements under Titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act. The federal government's willingness to enforce these confidentiality provisions is in doubt, however, since several states have similarly opened child abuse and neglect proceedings and to date have not been subject to financial sanctions.

The bill largely resolves this problem by recognizing the preeminence of federal law if a conflict between a provision of the bill and federal law adversely affects receipt of federal funds. In the event this situation arises, the Department would act quickly to minimize the loss of federal receipts.

The Department receives approximately \$15 million in federal Title IV-B and IV-E annually. These funds are spread throughout the Division of Family and Youth Services' budget.