

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2002 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bill Version: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected: Health & Social Services  
 Title Terrorism & Disaster Civil Defense Act BRU State Health Services  
 Component Public Health Administrative Services  
 Sponsor Rules Component No. 292  
 Requester \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>						
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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						
1007 Inter-Agency Receipts						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2002) cost: 0.0

Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2003 budget proposal:

**POSITIONS**

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

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

In the event of a bioterrorist attack, imminent threat of attack, or a naturally occurring disease outbreak serious enough to warrant the declaration by the governor of a disaster emergency, the Division of Public Health would divert all necessary and available resources to responding to and controlling the disease. A zero fiscal note is shown because 1) there isn't a direct and immediate budgetary impact on the Division by the passage of this bill (in the event of a declared disaster emergency the Division would have access to the disaster relief fund), and 2) the governor has included a series of increments in the Homeland Security Budget Bill that would provide the Division of Public Health with additional resources necessary for strengthening the public health infrastructure and the Division's ability to identify and respond to a

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 Division: Public Health Date/Time 1/11/02 4:29 PM  
 Approved by: Elmer A. Lindstrom, Deputy Commissioner Date 1/11/2002  
 Agency: Department of Health and Social Services

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BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

### ANALYSIS CONTINUATION

bioterrorist attack.

In order to identify and control a disease introduced into the population through a terrorist attack, the public health system must be staffed with well-trained, competent professionals and have sophisticated disease monitoring and reporting systems, state-of-the art laboratory testing capacity, advanced communication systems for rapid notification of emergency responders, resources to treat victims, and better trained and equipped first responders.

Homeland security in public health has four interdependent parts, all of which would be strengthened by the appropriation requested in the Homeland Security Budget Bill:

**Public Health Nursing:** Public health nurses are the front-line workers in the public health system. Additional capacity is needed to support the ability for immediate response by the public health system to a terrorist or bioterrorist event at the community level. These resources would be utilized on a routine basis for the ongoing management of naturally occurring infectious disease outbreaks. These funds would also provide support for bioterrorism preparedness training for PHN staff, as well as improved computer and communication system support for public health centers.

**Epidemiology:** State physician and nurse epidemiologists provide expert medical direction and oversight to public health nurses in the field and private health care providers across Alaska regarding disease identification and control. Homeland security funds will provide staff with expertise in detecting and responding to bioterrorist attacks (as well as chemical or nuclear attacks by terrorists). They would provide medical directives for guiding the response in the event of an attack, would provide oversight for the distribution and use of pharmaceuticals, and would be able to contract for the services of additional medical expertise in the event of an emergency.

**Community Health & Emergency Medical Services:** Disaster Communications specialists and technical support are required to develop and support a coordinated telecommunications systems required for rapid notification of first responders, private health care professionals, and state and local government agencies responsible for responding to disasters and public health emergencies. Additional funding for regional EMS grantees is required to provide specialized training and technical assistance in the area so bioterrorism and mass casualty response and responder safety.

**Public Health Laboratories:** Public health laboratories are a critical component of the public health system's ability to detect and address a disease outbreak, either naturally occurring or caused by a bioterrorist attack. Additional resources are required to provide full staffing, lab testing supplies and equipment necessary for a sudden influx of test requests, and additional microbiologists with virology and bacteriology expertise at both the Anchorage and Fairbanks labs. As with the other areas, strengthened capacity for responding to a bioterrorist attack would be used on a routine basis for support of on-going disease surveillance and response activities, as well as training in new testing technologies, especially testing for biological agents that might be used in a terrorist attack.