

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2010 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: SB 241
 (S) Publish Date: 1/27/10

Identifier (file name): 0812-DPS-SCDL-12-30-09 Dept. Affected: Public Safety
 Title: "An Act relating to post-conviction DNA testing" RDU: Statewide Support
 Sponsor: Rules Committee Component: Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory
 Requester: Governor Component Number: _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2011	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Contractual								
Supplies								
Equipment								
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES								
CHANGE IN REVENUES ()								

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

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

Estimate of any current year (FY2010) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

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

This proposed legislation would require post-conviction DNA testing for those who meet the legal requirements, allow for the preservation of certain evidence for possible future forensic testing, and requests amendments to the DNA identification registration system statute, 44.41.035, all of which would directly affect the State Crime Laboratory. The bill also contains proposals that would not affect the Crime Lab.

The State Crime Lab has hired and trained three new Forensic Technicians in the past year. With this addition in personnel the Evidence Section has been able to implement new procedures that have significantly reduced evidence turnaround time. Intensive inventory and focus on the creation of valuable space has brought that Section (cont.)

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 Division: Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory Date/Time 12/31/09 8:10 AM
 Approved by: Joe Masters, Commissioner Date 12/31/2009
Department of Public Safety

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ANALYSIS CONTINUATION

forward in anticipation of a possible increase in evidence retention and submissions for analysis due to proposed legislation. These actions are believed to be sufficient to handle the increase in submissions should this proposed legislation become law and is believed to be able to carry the laboratory forward approximately 2-4 years before fiscal impact would become likely.

Because it is not understood just how much of an increase in evidence submissions for analysis and for retention the laboratory will ultimately see, it may be that a revised fiscal note will become necessary in the future; however, at this time the Department does not foresee a fiscal impact beyond its current needs.

The Section (s) revision to 44.41.035 speaks to the authority of the Department of Public Safety to obtain a subsequent DNA sample should the original sample not provide a profile adequate for database entry. Although the frequency of samples failing to provide sufficient information is relatively small, this is a critical concern and this addition to the statute would provide resolution. Because the number of subsequent sample requests is determined to be low, the laboratory does not anticipate fiscal impact resulting from passage of this amendment.