

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2015 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	CSSB 30 (JUD)
Fiscal Note Number:	7
(S) Publish Date:	2/23/2015

Identifier: SB030CS(JUD)-DHSS-PEIG-2-22-15
 Title: MARIJUANA REG;CONT.
 SUBST;CRIMES;DEFENSES
 Sponsor: JUDICIARY
 Requester: Senate Finance Committee

Department: Department of Health and Social Services
 Appropriation: Behavioral Health
 Allocation: Behavioral Health Prevention and Early
 Intervention Grants
 OMB Component Number: 3098

Expenditures/Revenues

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

	FY2016	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2016 Request	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2016	FY 2016					
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services	124.4		120.7	117.0	113.5	110.1	106.8
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits	244.1		244.1	244.1	244.1	244.1	244.1
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	368.5	0.0	364.8	361.1	357.6	354.2	350.9

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund	368.5		364.8	361.1	357.6	354.2	350.9
Total	368.5	0.0	364.8	361.1	357.6	354.2	350.9

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2015) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)
 (discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2016) cost: 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)
 (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 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?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:

Not applicable, initial version.

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Division:	Behavioral Health	Date:	02/18/2015 01:00 PM
Approved By:	Sarah Woods, Deputy Director Finance & Management Services	Date:	02/22/19
Agency:	Health & Social Services		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Analysis

This bill makes changes to Alaska Statute, following voter approval of Ballot Measure #2 in November, 2014.

Relevant to duties performed by the Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Behavioral Health (DBH), this bill:

- Amends AS 17.30.140 "Education and Research" to add specific focus on alcohol and marijuana to current work addressing controlled substances;
- Amends various current provisions codified in AS 47.37, adding references to "marijuana", "marijuana abuse", and "marijuana abusers" to areas regarding the maintenance of substance abuse prevention and treatment services available in the state; and
- Amends AS 47.38.020 to allow the courts to refer individuals to an existing sobriety monitoring program, as a condition of release or probation.

Specific to the funds identified in this fiscal note, this bill clearly identifies the need for increased and/or enhanced education, research and community outreach related to marijuana and its possible impacts on public and behavioral health and public safety. Currently, DBH's Prevention and Early Intervention team works closely with community-level organizations across the state to promote health and wellness, prevent youth use and excessive adult use of both legal and illegal drugs, and to identify early intervention strategies to minimize the poor behavioral health outcomes related to such use. The Division's initial assessment identifies three immediate strategies to begin improving our response to these statutory changes:

1. Acquire and/or develop Alaska specific education and outreach materials to inform the public about the change in marijuana's legal and commercial status, identify potential health and safety risks for individuals to consider, and offer strategies for reducing possible negative behavioral health and public safety outcomes. A statewide media campaign, among other education and outreach strategies, is currently under consideration;
2. Expand the current duties of cross-disciplinary groups such as the Alaska Committee to Prevent Underage Drinking (ACPUD) and the State Epidemiology Workgroup. The ACPUD, with broad representation from diverse stakeholders, has developed the Alaska Strategies to Prevent Underage Drinking; a similar plan could be developed to focus on underage marijuana use and abuse. The State Epidemiology Workgroup (SEW) could be used to monitor and track changes in data reflecting marijuana use, treatment and outcomes, including trends and prevalence rates; and
3. Provide technical assistance, provide training, and increase resources to community-based Comprehensive Behavioral Health Prevention and Early Intervention grantees.

Projected costs for these increases include \$124.4 in current Services costs (items 1 and 2, above). An additional \$244.1 would fund additional necessary technical assistance and other resources for additional marijuana-focused grant programming by current Community Based Prevention and Early Intervention grantees (item 3, above). The Department's request for these three items totals \$368.5 in FY2016. This request builds in a 3% annual decrease in Services costs, as some materials and service infrastructure can be re-used in following years.

Due to limited data and information about the possible effects of this policy change on multiple affected systems, as well as an unknown regulatory framework, this fiscal note is a current best estimate. The Department of Health and Social Services continues to work with multiple agencies, as well as partners in Colorado and Washington State, to gather the best possible information in order to identify costs associated with this bill.