

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2015 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	SB 71
Fiscal Note Number:	3
(S) Publish Date:	4/10/2015

Identifier: SB071-DHSS-MAA-04-07-15  
 Title: VACCINE CERTIFICATION FOR PHARMACISTS  
 Sponsor: GIESSEL BY REQUEST  
 Requester: Senate Labor & Commerce Committee

Department: Department of Health and Social Services  
 Appropriation: Health Care Services  
 Allocation: Medical Assistance Administration  
 OMB Component Number: 242

**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
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
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>0.0</b>

**Fund Source (Operating Only)**

None							
<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>	<b>0.0</b>

**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? **Yes**  
 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? **07/01/16**

**Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:**

The Department of Health and Social Services has determined it can absorb any anticipated capital costs within its existing appropriation.

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Division: Health Care Services	Date: 04/07/2015 10:30 AM
Approved By: Sarah Woods, Deputy Director Finance & Management Services	Date: 04/07/15
Agency: Health & Social Services	

REPORTED OUT OF  
SFC 04/10/2015

## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## Analysis

This bill will give certified pharmacists authority to immunize Alaska adults and children without having to collaborate with an overseeing physician.

This bill does not require an operating appropriation. The department has determined that any anticipated costs can be absorbed within its existing appropriation. This bill would not be expected to result in increased costs due to additional vaccine utilization, because many pharmacies already have the ability to provide immunization services and receive reimbursement through a collaborative practice agreement.

However, the Medicaid program would be expected to incur costs resulting from changes needed to the claims processing system to accommodate the elimination of the collaborative practice agreements. Modifying the claims processing system to enroll these providers would result in a one-time development cost. Changes in federal Medicaid program rules resulting from the Affordable Care Act [42 CFR 455.410(b)] require all ordering, rendering, and referring providers to be enrolled with the Medicaid program. Currently pharmacists are not individually enrolled by Alaska Medicaid, the pharmacy is enrolled. Due to challenges with the claims processing system and upcoming federal mandates (e.g. ICD-10) it is not anticipated that the claims processing system would be able to accommodate enrolling pharmacists before 7/1/2016.

Regulations [7 AAC 120.110 (d)] would need to be changed to allow for the payment of vaccines independently prescribed and administered by an enrolled pharmacist. The current regulation restricts payment to vaccines administered by a pharmacist for whom the Board of Pharmacy has approved a collaborative practice agreement.