

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2022 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	HB 317
Fiscal Note Number:	4
(H) Publish Date:	2/11/2022

Identifier: 0029-1-DOA-OPA-2-1-22
Title: CRIME OF SEX/HUMAN TRAFFICKING
Sponsor: RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR
Requester: Governor

Department: Department of Administration
Appropriation: Legal and Advocacy Services
Allocation: Office of Public Advocacy
OMB Component Number: 43

Expenditures/Revenues

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

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2023 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2023 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Personal Services	109.9		109.9	109.9	109.9	109.9	109.9
Travel	2.5		2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Services	7.5		7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
Commodities	2.5		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	122.4	0.0	120.4	120.4	120.4	120.4	120.4

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	122.4		120.4	120.4	120.4	120.4	120.4
Total	122.4	0.0	120.4	120.4	120.4	120.4	120.4

Positions

Full-time	1.0		1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2022) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2023) cost: 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)

Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account? No
(Supplemental/Capital/New Fund - 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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? N/A

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Not applicable, initial version.

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Agency: Department of Administration

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FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Analysis

This bill enacts a new offense series: sex trafficking in the first (unclassified felony), second (class A felony), and third degrees (class B or C felony, depending on circumstances). It also enacts the new crime of "patron of a victim of sex trafficking." A person is guilty of being a patron of a victim of sex trafficking if they solicit sexual conduct with reckless disregard that the person they are soliciting is a victim of sex trafficking. If the person solicited is under 18 years of age this offense will be a class B sex felony. If the person solicited is an adult, this offense will be a class C sex felony.

It amends current human trafficking statutes by enhancing penalties and broadening the type of conduct captured. It also creates the new crime of human trafficking in the third degree if someone provides resources in furtherance of human trafficking – a class B felony if more than \$200 worth of resources and a class C felony if less than \$200. The bill also clarifies that corroboration of a victim's testimony is not necessary and that a jury may convict based on a victim's testimony alone.

The bill also establishes a process for someone convicted of prostitution to vacate their conviction if they can show they were a victim of sex trafficking.

Cases with increased penalties, mandatory sentences, and higher charging levels require more litigation throughout all stages of litigation, but particularly increase jury trials, contested hearings, and post-conviction litigation. Many of the cases charged because of this bill will require substantial defense investigation. The increased litigation surrounding these cases, plus the additional anticipated referrals, are more than the Office of Public Advocacy can absorb with current resources. Therefore, the Office of Public Advocacy is adding an additional investigator position (range 18, Fairbanks) to meet the anticipated increase in cases and litigation.