

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2024 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	HB 219
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(H) Publish Date:	4/15/2024

Identifier: HB219-DOLWD-SP-03-18-24
 Title: REPEAL ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY LOAN PROGRAM
 Sponsor: SADDLER
 Requester: (H) FIN

Department: Department of Labor and Workforce Development
 Appropriation: Vocational Rehabilitation
 Allocation: Special Projects
 OMB Component Number: 1958

Expenditures/Revenues

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

	FY2025	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2025 Request	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2025	FY 2025					
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2024) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2025) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*

Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account? Yes
(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 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Provides expanded analysis regarding the Assistive Technology Loan Fund and why changes to the fund do not have an impact to the division.

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Phone: (907)334-5963
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REPORTED OUT OF
HFC 04/12/2024

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
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Analysis

This legislation would repeal the Assistive Technology Loan Fund (ATLF) for the purpose of improving access to assistive technology by making it available for management by a non-state entity. The Assistive Technology Loan Fund (ATLF) balance is currently tracked with an IRIS fund code of 3213, but there are no active appropriations. Repeal of the fund will have no foreseeable impact on the operations of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Special Projects component as this program, which originated in 1997, has not been utilized since 2014.

The division initially established the fund with \$291,630 in federal receipts from the Assistive Technology federal grant award, and then was recapitalized in 2002 with \$100.0 in general funds. The program was set up to allow loans from a commercial bank to be made to a qualified individual for which the ATLF could be used to subsidize the interest rate at a time when rates were very high, making the loan affordable for the borrower. The ATLF could also be used to guarantee up to 90% of the loan.

The program is available to individuals with disabilities or their representatives. None of the funds can be used to advertise the program, and because there are non-profits with better reach to Alaskans with disabilities for this purpose, the fund is no longer utilized by the department.