

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2024 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	CSSB 181(HSS)
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(S) Publish Date:	3/15/2024

Identifier: SB181-DOA-OPA-2-12-24  
 Title: CHILD PLACEMENT; DILIGENT SEARCH  
 Sponsor: BJORKMAN  
 Requester: (S)HSS

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)

	FY2025	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2025 Request	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>	<b>FY 2029</b>	<b>FY 2030</b>
Personal Services	468.1		468.1	468.1	468.1	468.1	468.1	468.1
Travel	11.0		11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0
Services	99.8		99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8
Commodities	10.5		10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>589.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>589.4</b>	<b>589.4</b>	<b>589.4</b>	<b>589.4</b>	<b>589.4</b>	<b>589.4</b>

**Fund Source (Operating Only)**

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	589.4		589.4	589.4	589.4	589.4	589.4	589.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>589.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>589.4</b>	<b>589.4</b>	<b>589.4</b>	<b>589.4</b>	<b>589.4</b>	<b>589.4</b>

**Positions**

Full-time	3.0		3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Part-time								
Temporary								

**Change in Revenues**

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>	<b>0.0</b>

**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?** 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 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?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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Division: Office of Public Advocacy	Date: 02/12/2024
Approved By: Leslie Isaacs, Administrative Services Director	Date: 02/16/24
Agency: Department of Administration	

## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## Analysis

This bill makes it easier for foster parents seeking to adopt children to maintain placement with children in their care and in some circumstances elevates placement with foster parents to the same preference given to family member placements. These changes are likely to increase litigation in child in need of aid cases where children are placed with potential adoptive parents over family members.

Much like the Public Defender Agency, the Office of Public Advocacy must provide parents with an attorney in Child in Need of Aid cases. Additionally, OPA must also provide a Guardian ad Litem to assess the best interests of the child. The agency anticipates an increase in litigation for both core services as a result of this legislation.

Increased litigation and increased length of time to disposition of a case will increase costs for the Office of Public Advocacy. The Agency will need the following additional positions to respond to the increased workload:

Add Attorney (CINA Parent) 1-4 (range 24/C, Anchorage)

Personal Services - \$184.2

Travel: - \$5.5

Case Costs: - \$27.7

Indirect rates- \$14.8

Commodities - \$3.5

Add Attorney (Guardian Ad Litem) 1-4 (range 24/C, Anchorage)

Personal Services - \$184.2

Travel: - \$5.5

Case Costs: - \$27.7

Indirect rates- \$14.8

Commodities - \$3.5

Add Paralegal 1-2 (range 16/A, Anchorage)

Personal Services - \$99.7

Travel: - \$0.00

Indirect rates- \$14.8

Commodities - \$3.5