

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2024 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	SB 226
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(S) Publish Date:	2/12/2024

Identifier: LL0365-DOA-OPA-2-7-24  
 Title: DEFINE "PUBLIC AGENCY" FOR OPA  
 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)

	FY2025	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2025 Request	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2025</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**

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>

**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 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?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:	01/16/2024 01:30 PM
Approved By:	Leslie Isaacs, Administrative Services Director	Date:	02/07/24
Agency:	Department of Administration		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

**Analysis**

This legislation clarifies the meaning of "public agency" under AS 44.21.410(a)(4) which will eliminate Flores appointments for the Office of Public Advocacy (OPA). Flores appointments are publicly funded divorce cases and are highly litigious and time consuming. The OPA attorneys that handle Flores appointments are also managing large Child in Need of Aid (CINA) and criminal caseloads. As a result, the agency is having to increasingly contract out these cases to private firms.

This legislation will prevent the further expansion of Flores appointments which will negate the need for the agency to request additional attorney positions or contract dollars to handle these civil custody (divorce) cases.