

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	HB 262
Fiscal Note Number:	2
(H) Publish Date:	2/9/2026

Identifier: HB262-JUD-ACS-01-23-26  
 Title: NUMBER OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES  
 Sponsor: RLS BY REQUEST  
 Requester: House Judiciary

Department: Judiciary  
 Appropriation: Alaska Court System  
 Allocation: Trial Courts  
 OMB Component Number: 768

**Expenditures/Revenues**

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

	FY2027	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2027 Request	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>	<b>FY 2029</b>	<b>FY 2030</b>	<b>FY 2031</b>	<b>FY 2032</b>
Personal Services	667.2		667.2	667.2	667.2	667.2	667.2	667.2
Travel								
Services	8.8		8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8
Commodities	99.5		4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>775.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>680.0</b>	<b>680.0</b>	<b>680.0</b>	<b>680.0</b>	<b>680.0</b>	<b>680.0</b>

**Fund Source (Operating Only)**

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	775.5		680.0	680.0	680.0	680.0	680.0	680.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>775.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>680.0</b>	<b>680.0</b>	<b>680.0</b>	<b>680.0</b>	<b>680.0</b>	<b>680.0</b>

**Positions**

Full-time	4.0		4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
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 (FY2026) cost:** 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

**Estimated CAPITAL (FY2027) 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? N/A  
 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

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

Initial version
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Division:	Alaska Court System	Date:	01/23/2026 04:00 PM
Approved By:	Stacey Marz, Administrative Director	Date:	01/23/26
Agency:	Alaska Court System		

## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## Analysis

House Bill 262 amends AS 22.10.120 to increase the number of superior court judges in the state from 45 to 46, and specifies that the one added judge will be assigned to the Third Judicial District. Specifically, the new judge will be assigned to serve in the Palmer courthouse.

Adding a new superior court judge will require a total of four new court employees. First, the cost of the judge will include the salary, benefits (health care, retirement system contributions, SBS), supplies (desk, chair, computer, books, miscellaneous), and contractual services/licenses (Westlaw, Courtview, etc.). The total for the judge would be \$356,000.

In addition, a judge requires a *judicial assistant* (a Range 12 employee) to handle administrative tasks. Superior court judges work closely with their *judicial law clerk* (a Range 13 employee), who does legal research and helps with drafting certain documents. Finally, the judge requires an *in-court clerk* (a Range 12 employee) who handles courtroom management, including recordings, exhibits, calendaring, and in-court documents. The total for these three positions, including annual salary, benefits, supplies, and contractual services/licenses is \$324,000.

In addition, in the initial year, one-time funding would be needed to purchase software licenses, furniture, computers, sound/recording systems, and other electronics for the courtroom and offices. The total for these costs is \$95,500 in year one only.

In sum, adding a new superior court judge in Palmer will have a fiscal impact of \$775,500 in the initial year (total costs for the four positions and one-time expenditures), and ongoing costs for future years of \$680,000. Therefore, these amounts are reflected in this fiscal note from the court system.