

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	HB 262
Fiscal Note Number:	3
(H) Publish Date:	2/9/2026

Identifier: HB262-LAW-30A-02-06-26
 Title: NUMBER OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES
 Sponsor: RLS BY REQUEST
 Requester: (H) Judiciary

Department: Department of Law
 Appropriation: Criminal Division
 Allocation: Third Judicial District: Outside Anchorage
 OMB Component Number: 2279

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
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2027	FY 2027						
Personal Services	250.5		250.5	250.5	250.5	250.5	250.5	250.5
Travel	10.0		10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Services	40.0		40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0
Commodities	5.0		2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
Total Operating	305.5	0.0	303.0	303.0	303.0	303.0	303.0	303.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	305.5		303.0	303.0	303.0	303.0	303.0	303.0
Total	305.5	0.0	303.0	303.0	303.0	303.0	303.0	303.0

Positions

Full-time	1.0		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	0.0

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? 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 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?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:	Administration Services Division	Date:	02/06/2026 12:00 PM
Approved By:	Amber LeBlanc, Administrative Services Director	Date:	02/06/26
Agency:	Administration Services Division		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Analysis

HB 262 adds a superior court judge to serve in Palmer. Adding judicial capacity will allow more hearings and trials to be scheduled and will move existing cases more quickly to final disposition, while also accommodating future filings in the fastest-growing region of the state.

This increased court capacity will directly increase workload demands on the Palmer District Attorney’s Office. Prosecutors will be required to handle more frequent hearings and trials and to litigate cases on accelerated timelines, drawing them out of their offices and away from other essential case preparation and case management work.

The Palmer District Attorney’s Office already carries one of the highest average per-prosecutor caseloads in the Criminal Division - an average of approximately 230 cases per prosecutor as of January 13, 2026. The Criminal Division does not have the capacity to absorb this increased demand without sacrificing cases or reallocating resources from other communities. Therefore, the Criminal Division will need an additional Attorney 5 position to respond to the increased court capacity.

Personal Services:	\$250.5	Attorney 5, range 25, full-time, Palmer
Travel:	\$10.0	Annual travel
Services:	\$40.0	For statewide core services chargebacks such as lease space, telephones, etc.
Commodities:	\$5.0	One-time setup costs for equipment and space in FY2027
	\$2.5	Ongoing supply and equipment costs