

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	CSHB 278(STA)
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(H) Publish Date:	3/11/2026

Identifier: HB278CS(STA)-DCCED-COM-03-10-26
 Title: ECONOMIC DEV:AK-IRELAND TRADE COMM.
 Sponsor: COSTELLO
 Requester: (H) State Affairs

Department: Department of Commerce, Community and
 Economic Development
 Appropriation: Executive Administration
 Allocation: Commissioner's Office
 OMB Component Number: 1027

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 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2027	FY 2027					
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	***	***	***	***	***

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 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?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:

Updated to reflect committee substitute and revised fiscal impact and analysis.

Prepared By:	Hannah Lager, Administrative Services Director	Phone:	(907)465-5533
Division:	Division of Administrative Services	Date:	03/10/2026
Approved By:	Hannah Lager, Administrative Services Director	Date:	03/10/26
Agency:	Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Analysis

This bill creates an Alaska-Ireland Trade Commission, which consist of five members appointed by the Governor. The Commission is charged with advancing, promoting, initiating, and encouraging trade, investment, economic support, business, and academic exchange and investment between Alaska and Ireland. The Commission is tasked with submitting an annual report of their findings, results, and recommendations, as well as detail on all donations, to the Legislature at the beginning of each legislative session.

Members of the Commission are serve without compensation, so no personal services costs are included. The Commission will be supported by staff in the Commissioner's Office. Given the short timeframe for the Commission to convene, evaluate recommendations, and provide a report to the legislature, the initial report on Commission activities is anticipated to be condensed. The Commission is expected to meet six times per year in the first year, all virtually. Travel for the Commission can only occur if it is funded by donations. Donations must be tracked by source, including address and contact information for donors. No provision is provided for donations from organizations.

The new committee substitute models the donation tracking information on the existing Alaska Public Offices Commission campaign contribution tracking. The department does not have a system in place to track donations or contributions at the level required by this legislation. Currently the department receives a low volume of gifts, bequests, or grants each year for travel activities in divisions from nonprofits, industry professional organizations, or other organizations, but is not required to track or report on the individual information. The future volume of donations from individuals is unknown.

The department will limit receipt of donations for this program to electronic payment methods only to streamline the donation process and ensure all information required by the legislation is collected for each donation system. This will allow the department to leverage its existing electronic payment receipting system, and limit system development to only an external data collection page to collect the required information for each donation. The programming and setup work to support the system will be managed by existing staff. As a result of the reduced scope of work, the Commissioner's Office will not require additional authority to implement the system.

A language appropriation authorizing collection and expenditure of Statutory Designated Program Receipts (SDPR) in the Commissioner's Office will be needed to receive gifts, bequests, or grants from private parties. For purposes of this fiscal note, SDPR revenues through that language appropriation are projected as indeterminate as the amounts are not yet known.