

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	HCS CSSB 64(FIN)
Fiscal Note Number:	5
(H) Publish Date:	3/23/2026

Identifier: SB064HCSCS(FIN)AM-OOG-DOE-03-06-26
 Title: ELECTIONS
 Sponsor: RLS
 Requester: (H) Finance

Department: Office of the Governor
 Appropriation: Elections
 Allocation: Elections
 OMB Component Number: 21

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	181.2		141.2	141.2	141.2	141.2	141.2	141.2
Travel	5.0		5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Services	198.9		162.2	162.2	162.2	162.2	162.2	162.2
Commodities	3.0		3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
Total Operating	388.1	0.0	311.4	311.4	311.4	311.4	311.4	311.4

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	388.1		311.4	311.4	311.4	311.4	311.4	311.4
Total	388.1	0.0	311.4	311.4	311.4	311.4	311.4	311.4

Positions

Full-time	1.0		1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Part-time								
Temporary	5.0		5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0

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: 765.0 *(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? **Yes**
 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? **07/01/27**

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Updated from SLA2025 to SLA2026 fiscal note template. Updated to reflect changes made in the House Finance committee substitute, specifically the removal of the requirement for ballot drop boxes at each regional office. Postage costs have been updated to reflect the increase from \$0.73 to \$0.78.

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Division:	Division of Elections	Date:	03/05/2026 05:00 PM
Approved By:	Cheri Lowenstein, Administrative Services Director	Date:	03/06/26
Agency:	Office of the Governor		

REPORTED OUT OF
 HFC 03/23/2026
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FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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Analysis

This bill proposes numerous changes to election laws that will impact the Division of Elections. Concerning specific changes that will result in fiscal impacts, the bill:

- Requires the division to hire a rural community liaison
- Amends AS 15.20.030 relating to the preparation of ballots, envelopes, and other materials to provide for postage-paid, pre-addressed return envelopes for absentee ballots
- Requires a ballot tracking system
- Implements a cure process for deficient ballots
- Requires two new reports from the division: an annual audit of the master register and a one-time rural voting report

All costs presented are unrestricted general funds.

Cost of staff required by this legislation:

One full-time position as rural community liaison, range 16	Annual Cost
Personal Services	\$ 101.2
Travel	\$ 5.0
Contractual Services	\$ 15.0
Commodities	<u>\$ 3.0</u>
Total Annual Cost	\$ 124.2

Five temporary staff for managing cure process

Personal Services	FY27 Cost
	\$ 80.0

Note: Full cost first year (FY27); funding smoothed over two years thereafter.

Requiring postage-paid envelopes for all absentee ballots in all districts. The number of absentee vote envelopes is based on 2024 numbers.

	FY27 Cost
Primary Election: 12,828 absentee voters X 0.78-cent stamp/envelope	\$ 10.0
General Election: 57,834 absentee voters X 0.78-cent stamp/envelope	<u>\$ 45.1</u>
Contractual Services	\$ 55.1

NOTE: Full cost first year (FY27); funding smoothed over two years thereafter.

REAA Election: 5,930 absentee voters X 0.78-cent stamp/envelope	Annual Cost
	\$ 4.6

New posters to change wording removing hunting & fishing licenses and adding Tribal ID as acceptable form of identification

P06 Posters (2 posted at each precinct) \$8.67 x 804	One-time Cost
P06A Posters (posted at each absentee-in-person and early vote site) \$6.42 x 337	\$ 7.0
Total one-time contractual services cost	<u>\$ 2.2</u>
	\$ 9.2

Subject Matter Expert Auditor for yearly Master Register Audit (yearly)	Annual Cost
Contractual Services	<u>\$ 65.0</u>
	\$ 65.0

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

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BILL NO. SB064

Analysis

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New Interface Software Maintenance Cost	Annual Cost
Contractual Services Annual Cost beginning FY28	\$ 50.0

FY27 Capital Costs for New Systems or Contractual Services required by this legislation	FY27 Capital
Ballot Tracking System and software (first year and \$10.0 each year after)	\$ 100.0
Legislative Report regarding early voting in rural precincts (one-time funding for FY27)	\$ 65.0

FY27 Capital IT costs for interfacing with other state data and federal systems to include:

- USPS Postal Service forwarding data
- Property and sales tax data
- Jury duty records
- DMV records databases (other states)
- Department of Corrections

Total Interface Capital Costs	<u>\$ 600.0</u>
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NOTE: Even if funds are appropriated in FY26, the timeline required for procurement, development, testing, and deployment of fully functional and secure systems and interfaces would extend beyond the 2026 election cycle. As a result, the systems and interfaces could not be implemented in time for use in the 2026 elections. Estimated ongoing maintenance of \$50.0 per year beginning FY28.

TOTAL Capital Costs	\$ 765.0
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