

HB

214

COMMITTEE REPORT
SENATE

FURTHER:

Date: _____

Mr. President:

The Committee on _____ has had _____

under consideration and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s)
- replace with CS for _____ same title
 new title
- and recommends _____
- AND attaches a "Letter of Intent" New Fiscal Note
- reports it back without recommendation
- referred to the _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

CHAIRMAN

W

John

HOUSE BILL NO. 214

LETTER OF INTENT

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

April 8, 1983

It is the intent of the House Committee on Judiciary that the superior court judgeship in Valdez shall not be filled until the Supreme Court eliminates the Valdez district court judgeship.



Representative Charlie Bussell
Chairman, Committee on Judiciary

STATE OF ALASKA
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date _____, 1983

Page 1 of 2

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 214 No. 1
Title: Number of Superior Court Judges
Sponsor: Cato
Requestor: Judiciary & Finance

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Alaska Court System
Program Category Affected: Justice
BRU, Program of Subprogram(s) Affected:
Alaska Court System

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88
OPERATING		21.4	21.4	21.4	21.4	21.4
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC						
TOTAL OPERATING		21.4	21.4	21.4	21.4	21.4

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88
GENERAL FUND		21.4	21.4	21.4	21.4	21.4
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Source)						

POSITIONS:

	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88
FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

IV. ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for any Analysis

Prepared By: Robert G. Fisher, Fiscal Officer
Division: Alaska Court System, Administration

Phone: 264-0561
Date: 3/31/83

Approved by Commissioner: _____
Department: _____

Date: _____

Distribution:

- Original to Legislative Finance
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- Copy to Department (for Governor introduced bills)
- Copy to Sponsor
- Copy to Requestor (if different from Sponsor)

3/8/83

PERSONNAL SERVICES:

Salary (Superior Court Judge - Valdez)	\$ 82,368
Benefits (Retirement, variable & fixed)	<u>80,129</u>
Total Cost of Superior Court Judge	\$162,515
Less: Budgeted funds for exisiting District Court Judge position.	<u>141,157</u>
Net cost of upgrading Valdez court to superior court level.	<u>\$ 21,358</u>

ANALYSIS:

This bill would upgrade the district court judge position in Valdez to the superior court level. The fiscal impact is limited to the increased costs of salary and benefits. There appears to be adequate clerical support in Valdez at the present staffing level.

While it would be beneficial to the court to add a law clerk (\$38,000/year total cost) this is not requested at this time.

STATE OF ALASKA
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date _____, 1983

I. REQUEST Page 1 of 3 II. FISCAL DETAIL
Bill/Resolution No.: HB 214 No. 2 Agency Affected: Department of Law
Title: "Superior Court Judges" Program Category Affected: Adm. of Justice
Sponsor: Rep. Cato BRU, Program of Subprogram(s) Affected:
Requestor: House Judiciary Committee Prosecution

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	15.0	15.9	16.9	17.9	19.0
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	15.0	15.9	16.9	17.9	19.0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Source)						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

Not specified by sponsor.

IV. ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for any Analysis

Prepared By: Richard I. Pegues, Director

Phone: 465-3672

Division: Administrative Services Division

Date: April 5, 1983

Approved by Commissioner: Richard I. Pegues / for
Norman C. Gorsuch, Attorney General

Date: April 5, 1983

Department: Department of Law

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This bill would establish a superior court judge position in Valdez, Alaska. The prosecution of criminal cases in Valdez is currently handled through the maintenance of a small office staffed by a paralegal in Valdez, and the services of an attorney from the District Attorney's office in Palmer. An assistant district attorney now travels to Valdez approximately once a month, and stays there for about one week. If a superior court judge were permanently assigned to Valdez, it is estimated that the increased workload would require that this assistant district attorney travel to Valdez twice a month for about a week each time.

Caseload statistics indicate that the Palmer District Attorney's office can satisfactorily service the Valdez area through periodic visits. Some members of the Valdez community have expressed a desire for a fully staffed district attorney's office located in their area, however. At a minimum, the opening of a complete district attorney's office in Valdez would require the addition of one full-time prosecuting attorney, one full-time secretary, more office space, and basic legal research materials.

It is estimated that the establishment of a superior court in Valdez will increase district attorney travel to Valdez from one week each month to two weeks per month. Current annual travel expenses for Valdez are estimated at \$15,000 including witness subsistence expenses. A doubling of this effort would require an additional \$15,000 in travel funds. This is the total amount being requested in this fiscal note.

Caseload statistics indicate that the Valdez area can be satisfactorily serviced from other offices until such time as the caseload warrants a full-time resident prosecutor. At the present time Valdez is being handled by our two attorneys from the Palmer office where Valdez cases represent only 20% of their total caseload.

Creation of a full service prosecutor's office at Valdez would require the addition of one Attorney V and one Legal Secretary I, as well as associated support costs for expanded office space, equipment, word processing, a small law library, and increased communications. The following additional costs would be incurred to establish such an office on a 10 month year start-up basis:

Personel Services	94.2
Travel	7.5
(single time transfer cost)	
Contractual	10.0
(expanded office space & communications)	
Commodities - on-going	4.0
Commodities - single time	6.0
Equipment - single time	17.5
Total	<u>\$139.2</u>

STATE OF ALASKA
PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF FISCAL IMPACT

Bill No: HB 214 Date on Bill: 2-21-83
 Title: "An Act relating to the number of superior court judges;..."
 Sponsor: Cato
 Requestor: House Judiciary

1. Estimated fiscal impacts on: No fiscal impact is anticipated.

a. Expenditures:

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86
Capital				
Operative				
Total	0	0	0	0

b. Revenues:

Revenue				
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2. Source of funds to offset fiscal impact of bill:

2. Assumptions:

4. Disclaimer:

This statement has not been reviewed by the OMB in the Office of the Governor. It therefore does not represent the final estimate of fiscal impact.

Prepared By: Francis C. Allan *F.C.A.* Phone: 269-5691

Division: Alaska State Troopers Date: 2-24-83

Approved by Commissioner: *[Signature]* Date: 3-1-83

Department: Department of Public Safety

5. Distribution:

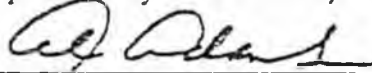
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2/15/83

LETTER OF INTENT
FOR
HOUSE BILL 214

It is the intent of the House Committee on Finance that the superior court judgeship in Valdez shall not be filled until the Supreme Court eliminates the Valdez district court judgeship.

Respectfully Submitted,



Al Adams, Chairman
House Finance Committee