

**SB**

**58**

<TARGET><BILL>SB 58</BILL><SUBJECT>SB  
58</SUBJECT><COMM>HFIN27</COMM></TARGET>

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(11)

Date Referred to Committee: April 9, 2011

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 4/16/11

The FINANCE Committee considered:

SB 58

SENATE BILL NO. 58

"An Act increasing the number of superior court judges designated for the third judicial district; and providing for an effective date."

SB 58-INCREASING NUMBER OF SUPERIOR CT JUDGES

Recommends it be replaced with  HCS or  CS for \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)  
 For Senate Bills with new title:  Technical Title  New Title: HCR \_\_\_\_\_  Same Title  New Title

- attach amendments
- add new referral to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee
- Letter of Intent \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

List of Abbrev for Depts.:  
 ADM  
 CED  
 COR  
 CRT  
 EED  
 DEC  
 DFG  
 GOV  
 DHS  
 LWF  
 LAW  
 LEG  
 MVA  
 DNR  
 DPS  
 REV  
 DOT  
 UA

NEW FISCAL NOTES				
*FN# is assigned by Chief Clerk's Office				
*FN#	List by Dept(s):	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero
	CRT	✓		

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTES				
FN#	List by Dept(s):	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero
2	CRT	✓		
3	ADM	✓		
4	ADM	✓		
7	LAW	✓		
8	GOV			✓
9	COR			✓
10	DPS			✓

Signing with recommendations	Printed Last Name	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Anna Fairclough</i>	FAIRCLOUGH	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	✓			
<i>Jammie Wilson</i>	T Wilson	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	NEUMA	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	COSTELLO	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	Edgmon	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	DOBAN	✓			
Chair: <i>[Signature]</i>	Staltee			✓	
Chair: <i>[Signature]</i>	Thomas	✓			

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bill Version SB058-ACS-TC-04-12-11  
 ( ) Publish Date \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier (file name) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title An Act Relating to the Number of Superior Court Judges Appropriation Alaska Court System  
 Allocation Trial Courts  
 Sponsor Senate Rules Committee  
 Requester Alaska Supreme Court OMB Component Number 768

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required		Information				
	FY 2012	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>							
Personal Services	888.4		888.4	888.4	888.4	888.4	888.4
Travel	10.0		10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Services	37.6		20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Commodities	79.6		12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0
Capital Outlay							
Grants							
Miscellaneous							
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>1,015.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>930.4</b>	<b>930.4</b>	<b>930.4</b>	<b>930.4</b>	<b>930.4</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>425.2</b>					
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>							
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF	1,015.6		930.4	930.4	930.4	930.4	930.4
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
Other (please identify)							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,015.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>930.4</b>	<b>930.4</b>	<b>930.4</b>	<b>930.4</b>	<b>930.4</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

Full-time	8.0		8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Part-time							
Temporary							

**Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)**

This fiscal note is different from the court's earlier note in that it is updated to reflect the incorporation of the \$425.2 capital expenditure into the senate version of the FY12 capital bill (SB46).

Prepared by Doug Wooliver, Administrative Attorney  
 Division Alaska Court System  
 Approved by Doug Wooliver for Christine Johnson, Administrative Director  
Alaska Court System

Phone 907-463-4750  
 Date/Time 4/12/2011 @ 10:30 am  
 Date 4/12/2011

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB058

**Analysis**

Senate Bill 58 adds two new superior court judges to the Anchorage Bench. The Judges will be assigned civil caseloads. This fiscal note reflects the cost of the new judges along with their accompanying staff and one-time office-related expenses. This note also reflects the capital remodel costs necessary to accommodate two new superior court judges in the Nesbett Courthouse. These remodel costs are also included in the Alaska Court System's capital budget request as part of the court's long-term capital goals. Should the court's capital budget request be fully funded those costs would be removed from this note.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB058

Analysis

Alaska Court System  
Fiscal Note Calculations for SB058

Personal Services

Superior Court Judge - Anchorage (2)	514,200
In-Court Clerk - Anchorage, Range 12A (2)	125,200
Law Clerk - Anchorage, Range 13D (2)	123,800
Administrative Assistant - Anchorage, Range 12A (2)	<u>125,200</u>
Subtotal Personal Services	888,400

Travel

Judicial Conferences/Other	10,000
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WAN Fees, Software & Licensing

37,600

Supplies (desk, computer, courtroom electronics, and chair) for four PFT positions

79,600

Fiscal Note Total (Operating Expenses)

1,015,600

Breakdown by Expense Category:

Personal Services Total	888,400
Travel Total	10,000
Services Total	37,600
Commodities Total	79,600

Total Operating Expenses

1,015,600

Capital Expenditures

Remodel Nesbett Courthouse to Accommodate Judges & Staff

Total Capital Expenses

425,200

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number 2  
 Bill Version SB 58  
 (S) Publish Date 2/17/11

Identifier (file name) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected Alaska Judicial Council  
 Title An Act Relating to the Number of Superior Court Judges Appropriation \_\_\_\_\_  
 Allocation \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sponsor Senate Rules Committee  
 Requester Alaska Supreme Court OMB Component Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information					
		FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>							
Personal Services							
Travel	9.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Services	14.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Commodities	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Capital Outlay							
Grants							
Miscellaneous							
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>							
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>							
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF	23.2	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
Other (please identify)							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

Initial version.

Prepared by Larry Cohn, Executive Director  
 Division Alaska Judicial Council  
 Approved by \_\_\_\_\_

Phone 907-279-2526 ext. 1  
 Date/Time 2/1/11 4:30 p.m.  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_

**FISCAL NOTE #2**  
**Alaska Judicial Council**

**Analysis**

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**BILL NO. SB 58** \_\_\_\_\_

SB 58 adds two new superior court judges in the Third Judicial District. This fiscal note assumes that these positions will be filled separately, either because they will be in different venues or because the court may not have the facilities to proceed immediately on two new positions in a single venue. The Judicial Council's initial costs of filling these vacancies include funds needed to solicit applicants, to conduct investigations into their qualifications, and to convene a meeting to interview applicants and nominate the most qualified to the governor for appointment. A breakdown of costs is as follows:

<b><u>Travel</u></b>	Council members' travel to two meetings	<u>9,000</u>
<b><u>Contractual</u></b>	Printing, mailing, survey hosting, data analysis, advertising, miscellaneous	<u>14,100</u>
<b><u>Commodities</u></b>	Paper	<u>100</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<u><u>23,200</u></u>

If the Alaska Court System is able and willing to fill the two new positions simultaneously, and if the positions are in the same venue, the Judicial Council will coordinate its solicitation and screening of judicial applicants to achieve lower costs. In that case, the Council's funding request would be as follows:

<b><u>Travel</u></b>	Council members' travel to one meeting	<u>5,500</u>
<b><u>Contractual</u></b>	Printing, mailing, survey hosting, data analysis, advertising, miscellaneous	<u>7,900</u>
<b><u>Commodities</u></b>	Paper	<u>100</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<u><u>13,500</u></u>

An average superior court judge serves for twelve years. Costs associated with filling these positions in the future are amortized over the next twelve years.

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number 3  
 Bill Version SB 58  
 (S) Publish Date 2/17/11

Identifier (file name) SB058-DOA-PDA-1-29-11 Dept. Affected Administration  
 Title An Act increasing the number of superior court judges..... Appropriation Legal and Advocacy Services  
 Allocation Public Defender Agency  
 Sponsor Senate Rules Committee  
 Requester Senate Judiciary OMB Component Number 1631

**Expenditures/Revenues**

(Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2012	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services	181.7		181.7	181.7	181.7	181.7	181.7	181.7
Travel	4.1		4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1
Services	30.2		30.2	30.2	30.2	30.2	30.2	30.2
Commodities	3.0		3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Capital Outlay	13.4		1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Grants								
Miscellaneous								
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>232.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>								
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>								
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**FUND SOURCE**

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 2012	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF	232.4		220.3	220.3	220.3	220.3	220.3
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
Other (please identify)							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>232.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

	FY 2012	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Full-time	2.0		2	2	2	2	2
Part-time							
Temporary							

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

Prepared by Quinlan Steiner, Director  
 Division Public Defender Agency  
 Approved by John Cramer, Deputy Commissioner  
Department of Administration

Phone 907 334-4414  
 Date/Time 1/28/11 4:30 PM  
 Date 1/29/11, 12:15 PM

FISCAL NOTE #3

STATE OF ALASKA  
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 58

**Analysis**

This bill provides for two new superior court judges in Anchorage. These positions are expected to handle a civil caseload of Child in Need of Aid (CINA) matters. The additional judicial positions are expected to increase weekly court room appearances and will increase the workload associated with all civil cases as the Agency attempts to prepare its cases in a timely manner to meet the demand of increased court hearings.

The civil division has six attorneys who are required to appear before the current ten superior court judges handling CINA matters. The Agency anticipates the need for a single attorney position in the civil division with the additional support of a law office assistant to meet the anticipated workload increase.

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number 4  
 Bill Version SB 58  
 (S) Publish Date 2/17/11

Identifier (file name) SB058-DOA-OPA-1-29-11 Dept. Affected Administration  
 Title An Act increasing the number of superior court judges..... Appropriation Legal and Advocacy Services  
 Allocation Office of Public Advocacy  
 Sponsor Senate Rules Committee  
 Requester Senate Judiciary OMB Component Number 43

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2012	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services	181.7		181.7	181.7	181.7	181.7	181.7	181.7
Travel	4.1		4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1
Services	30.2		30.2	30.2	30.2	30.2	30.2	30.2
Commodities	3.0		3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Capital Outlay	13.4		1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Grants								
Miscellaneous								
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>232.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>								
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>								
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF	232.4		220.3	220.3	220.3	220.3	220.3	220.3
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other (please identify)								
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>232.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>	<b>220.3</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

Full-time	2.0		2	2	2	2	2	2
Part-time								
Temporary								

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

Prepared by Rachel Levitt, Acting Director  
 Division Office of Public Advocacy  
 Approved by John Cramer, Deputy Commissioner  
Department of Administration

Phone 907 269-3504  
 Date/Time 1/29/11, 12:00 p.m.  
 Date 1/29/2011, 12:15:00 PM

FISCAL NOTE #4

STATE OF ALASKA  
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 58

**Analysis**

This bill will create two new Superior Court judge positions in the Third Judicial District. The agency has been advised that these two judges will be handling Anchorage Child in Need of Aid (CINA) matters. Currently, there are ten Anchorage Superior Court judges handling CINA matters. The addition of two new Superior Court judges will considerably increase the number of CINA cases heard on a weekly basis.

The Office of Public Advocacy currently has five full time staff attorneys in Anchorage who represent parents in CINA matters. These attorneys are within a staff section with a total of eight attorneys and two support staff (one law office assistant and one paralegal). The addition of two more judges will greatly increase the demands on these attorneys and staff to prepare for and appear in court for CINA matters. In order to adequately address the increased demands on the agency, the agency will need one additional attorney and one additional law office assistant.

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number 7  
 Bill Version SB 58  
 (S) Publish Date 2/17/11

Identifier (file name): SB058-LAW-CIV-01-29-11 Dept. Affected Law  
 Title An Act increasing the number of superior court judges Appropriation Civil  
designated for the third judicial district; and providing for an Allocation Child Protection  
 Sponsor Rules  
 Requester (S) Judiciary OMB Component Number 2961

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information					
		FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>							
Personal Services	192.3		192.3	192.3	192.3	192.3	192.3
Travel	1.1		1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Services	26.7		26.7	26.7	26.7	26.7	26.7
Commodities	4.0		4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Capital Outlay	0.9		0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Grants							
Miscellaneous							
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>225.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>225.0</b>	<b>225.0</b>	<b>225.0</b>	<b>225.0</b>	<b>225.0</b>
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>							

<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>							
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF	225.0		225.0	225.0	225.0	225.0	225.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
Other (please identify)							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>225.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>225.0</b>	<b>225.0</b>	<b>225.0</b>	<b>225.0</b>	<b>225.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

Full-time	1.0		1	1	1	1	1
Part-time	0.5		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Temporary							

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

Prepared by Eileen Donahue, Division Operations Manager  
 Division Administrative Services  
 Approved by John J. Burns, Attorney General  
Department of Law

Phone 465-5427  
 Date/Time 1/29/11 10:30 AM  
 Date 1/29/2011

FISCAL NOTE #7

STATE OF ALASKA  
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 58

**Analysis**

This bill adds two new civil judges in Anchorage. Currently a significant portion of cases before the Anchorage judges are CINA (child in need of aid) cases. The addition of two new judges would increase the capacity of the court system to handle CINA cases, but would require an additional attorney in the Anchorage Child Protection Section to utilize the improved capacity to reduce delays inherent in the current system. To the extent the judges increase the capacity of the court system to process criminal cases, the criminal division of the department would similarly experience increased workloads. The Child Protection Section would need at least 1 FTE attorney position and a .5 support position to meet the increased demand on time and resources.

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number 8  
 Bill Version SB 58  
 (S) Publish Date 2/17/11

Identifier (file name) SB058-OOG-DOE-1-28-11 Dept. Affected OOG  
 Title "An Act increasing the number of superior court judges designated for the third judicial district." Appropriation Elections  
 Allocation Elections  
 Sponsor Rules Committee  
 Requester Senate Judiciary Committee OMB Component Number 21

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2012	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants								
Miscellaneous								
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</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>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>								
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>								
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other (please identify)								
<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>

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

Prepared by Gail Fenumiai, Director  
 Division Division of Elections  
 Approved by Linda Perez, Administrative Director  
Office of the Governor

Phone 465-2644  
 Date/Time 1/28/2011, 4:55pm  
 Date 1/28/2011

FISCAL NOTE #8

STATE OF ALASKA  
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 58

**Analysis**

This legislation has no impact for the Division of Elections.

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number 9  
 Bill Version SB 58  
 (S) Publish Date 4/6/11

Identifier (file name) SB58-DOC-OC-03-10-11 Dept. Affected DOC  
 Title "An Act increasing the number of superior court judges" Appropriation Population Management  
 Allocation Statewide Probation & Parole  
 Sponsor Rules Committee  
 Requester Senate Finance Committee OMB Component Number 2826

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2012	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants								
Miscellaneous								
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</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>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</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>
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>								
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other (Inter-Agency)								
<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>

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost 0.0

**POSITIONS**

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

**Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)**

This is the first version of the bill.

Prepared by Leslie Houston, Director  
 Division Dept. of Corrections - Administrative Services  
 Approved by Joseph D. Schmidt, Commissioner  
Dept. of Corrections

Phone 465-3339  
 Date/Time 3/10/11 9:00 AM  
 Date 3/10/2011

FISCAL NOTE #9

STATE OF ALASKA  
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 58

**Analysis**

The legislation adds two new civil superior court judges to the third judicial district.

This legislation does not have any fiscal impact on the Department of Corrections.

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number 10  
 Bill Version SB 58  
 (S) Publish Date 4/6/11

Identifier (file name) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected Public Safety  
 Title An Act increasing the number of superior court judges Appropriation Alaska State Troopers  
 Allocation AST Detachments  
 Sponsor Rules  
 Requester Senate Finance Committee OMB Component Number 2325

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2012	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants								
Miscellaneous								
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</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>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>								
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>								
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other (please identify)								
<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>

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost 0.0

**POSITIONS**

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by Darwin Peterson, Senate Finance Committee staff  
Senator Bert Stedman, Co-Chair Senate Finance Committee  
Senator Lyman Hoffman, Co-Chair Senate Finance Committee

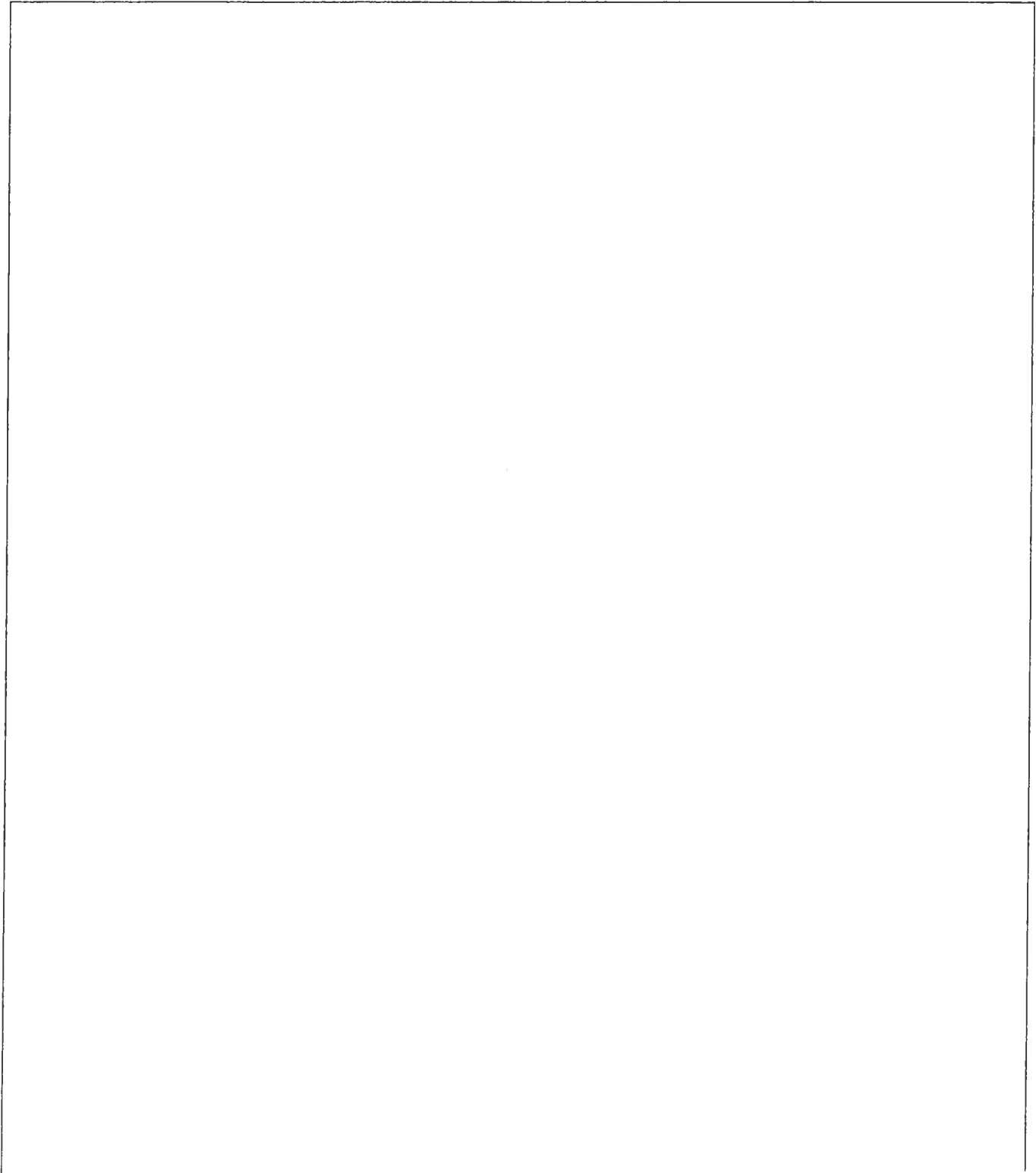
Phone 465-3873  
 Date/Time 4/5/11 6:32 PM  
 Date 4/5/2011

FISCAL NOTE #10

STATE OF ALASKA  
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 58

**Analysis**





ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

## **Sponsor Statement SB 58**

The Alaska Supreme Court is asking for two new superior court judges in Anchorage. The judges will be assigned to civil cases.

Additional judges are needed because Anchorage superior court judges have the highest caseloads in the state and a combination of devoting more time to Child in Need of Aid (CINA) cases and an ever-increasing number of domestic relations cases where the parties choose to litigate their case without the assistance of attorneys has created a workload that is unsustainable.

Although some of the additional work comes from an increase in case filings, much is the result of improved practices that better meet the needs of those who come to court. This is particularly true with CINA cases.

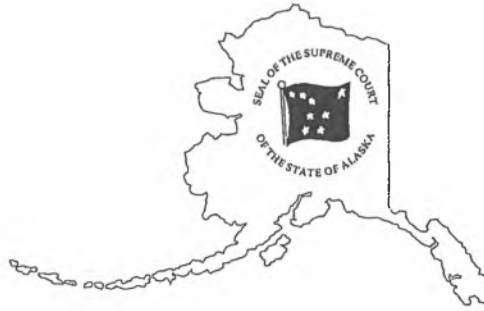
One change that has impacted workload involves how CINA cases are assigned to judges. Prior practice was to have standing masters (specialists who hear cases and make recommendations to judges) preside over all phases of a case with the exception of contested hearings. If a hearing was contested it would be assigned to an available superior court judge who would resolve the contested issue and then return the case to the standing master. Although that practice saved superior court time, it led to other problems as the family was shuffled back and forth between judges.

The new practice begins the same as the old; a CINA case starts with a master until there is a contested issue. However, once that occurs the case is permanently assigned to a superior court judge; it does not return to the master. This eliminates the judge-shuffling and allows the judge and the family to get to know each other. All parties agree that familiarity improves both the process and the outcome for the families. However, this model results in superior court judges spending more of their time on these cases.

In addition to CINA cases, another prime driver behind the current workload is the prevalence of unrepresented litigants in domestic relations cases. Although we do not have historical statistics that track these cases, Alaska judges, like judges from across the country, have seen a significant increase over the past several years.

Judges cite a list of time-consuming challenges that arise when counsel is absent from one side or both sides. Frequent motion practice, arguments unrelated to the relevant legal issues, delays stemming from the failure to submit needed information and judicial time spent calculating child support awards are some of those challenges. However, even though these litigants take more time, their cases are as important as those where the parties have lawyers and the judiciary is committed to ensuring that they too can meaningfully access the court.

Adding two new judges will not significantly reduce the workload of the Anchorage superior court (Anchorage superior court judges will still be the busiest superior court judges in the state), but it will provide some relief as the court works to develop alternative ways to manage that workload. Thank you for considering this request.



ALASKA COURT SYSTEM  
State of Alaska  
Office of the Administrative Director

Doug Wooliver  
Administrative Attorney

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March 15, 2011

The Honorable Lyman Hoffman  
Co-Chair Senate Finance Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Hoffman:

During the Senate Finance Committee hearing on SB 58 on Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> you asked for a three-year average of case filings per judge in both the superior and district courts for each court location. The attached spreadsheet shows the cases per judge for each of the last three fiscal years and a three-year average for each court location and for both superior and district courts.<sup>1</sup>

I hope this answers your questions. Please let me know if you would like additional information.

Sincerely,

Doug Wooliver  
Administrative Attorney  
Alaska Court System

cc: Senate Finance Committee Members

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<sup>1</sup> The district court numbers represents all district court filings, including traffic filings.

Alaska Court System

Review of Judicial Resources for Superior Court Locations with Superior Court Judges - FY08 - FY10

3/15/2011

Location	Number of Superior Court Judges	FY08 Superior Court Filings/Superior Court Judge	FY09 Superior Court Filings/Superior Court Judge	FY10 Superior Court Filings/Superior Court Judge	3-Yr. Average (FY08-FY10) Superior Court Filings/Superior Court Judge
Anchorage	15	645	643	687	658
Juneau	2	532	511	570	538
Fairbanks	6	467	482	535	494
Kenai	3	445	441	505	464
Valdez <sup>1</sup>	0.4	395	450	480	442
Palmer	4	469	465	478	470
Bethel	2	440	460	427	442
Dillingham	1	350	282	351	328
Nome	1	425	405	330	387
Ketchikan	2	346	330	316	331
Kodiak	1	343	310	287	313
Sitka	1	337	272	285	298
Kotzebue	1	338	320	259	306
Barrow	1	203	211	223	212
Totals	40.4	507	503	532	514

<sup>1</sup>At the district's request, the district court judge for the Valdez court is being classified as a part-time "Superior Court Judge - Pro Tem" & as a part-time "District Court Judge"

Alaska Court System

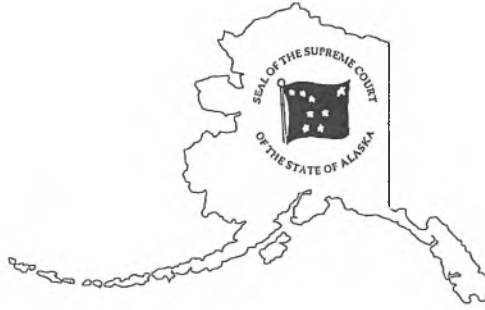
Review of Judicial Resources for District Court Locations with District Court Judges - FY08 - FY10

3/15/2011

Location	Number of District Court Judges & Magistrates	FY08 District Court Filings/District Court Judge & Magistrates	FY09 District Court Filings/District Court Judge & Magistrates	FY10 District Court Filings/District Court Judge & Magistrates	3-Yr. Average (FY08-FY10) District Court Filings/District Court Judge & Magistrates
Anchorage	15	3,670	3,772	4,001	3,814
Juneau	2	2,261	2,121	2,718	2,366
Fairbanks	4.5	3,487	3,454	3,880	3,607
Kenai	3	3,090	3,110	3,154	3,118
Valdez <sup>1</sup>	0.6	913	1,062	1,007	994
Palmer	4	5,236	5,040	5,428	5,234
Bethel	2	1,013	824	895	911
Dillingham	1	842	902	816	853
Nome	1	1,514	1,317	1,253	1,361
Ketchikan	2	1,366	1,346	1,219	1,310
Kodiak	1	2,273	2,065	1,653	1,997
Sitka	1	1,309	904	814	1,009
Kotzebue	1	1,284	1,031	916	1,077
Barrow	1	1,047	890	1,084	1,000
Homer	1	1,682	2,346	1,727	1,918
Totals	40.1	3,011	3,000	3,171	3,060

<sup>1</sup>At the district's request, the district court judge for the Valdez court is being classified as a part-time "Superior Court Judge - Pro Tem" & as a part-time "District Court Judge"

(Prepared by Rhonda McLeod, Alaska Court System)



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March 17, 2011

The Honorable Joe Thomas  
Member, Senate Finance Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Thomas:

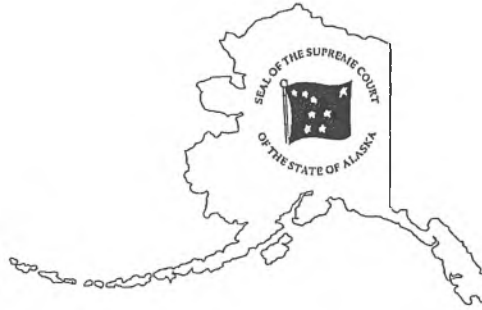
During the March 10<sup>th</sup> Senate Finance Committee hearing on SB 58 you asked for the percentage of Anchorage Child in Need of Aid cases that have had a contested issue and are now before a superior court judge rather than a standing master. There are currently 686 active CINA cases in the Anchorage Superior Court, 56 percent, or 388 cases, are being handled by a superior court judge and not a master.

I hope this answers your question; please let me know if you would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

Doug Wooliver  
Administrative Attorney  
Alaska Court System

cc: Senate Finance Committee Members



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Office of the Administrative Director

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Administrative Attorney

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March 15, 2011

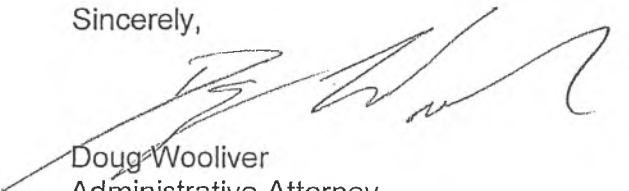
The Honorable Lesil McGuire  
Member, Senate Finance Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator McGuire:

In both the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Senate Finance Committee hearings on SB 58 you expressed concern about the limited number of women judges in Alaska, particularly the limited number of women superior court judges. In response to your concerns Larry Cohn (Executive Director, Alaska Judicial Council) provided you with a brief history of the number of women who apply for judgeships and the number of women the Council forwards to the governor for possible appointment. In order to supplement the information provided by Mr. Cohn I am attaching a list of all the women judges who are currently serving in Alaska. Confirming your concerns, of the 40 superior court judges in Alaska, only 5 are women.

I included magistrates in my list because, though they are hired directly by the court system and not part of the judicial selection process that goes through the Council and the governor, they are judges and hear thousands of cases each year.

Sincerely,



Doug Wooliver  
Administrative Attorney  
Alaska Court System

cc: Senate Finance Committee Members

## Women Judges in Alaska January, 2011

**Appellate Courts      2 of 8 (25%)**

Supreme Court      2 of 5 (40%)

(Fabe, Anchorage, 1996)  
(Christen, Anchorage, 2009)

Court of Appeals      0 of 3 (0%)

**Trial Courts              11 of 61 (18%)**

Superior Court      5 of 40 (13%)

First District              1      (Patricia Collins, Juneau, 1999)

Second District            0

Third District              4      (Sharon Gleason, Anchorage, 2001)  
(Kari Kristiansen, Palmer, 2006)  
(Vanessa White, Palmer, 2006)  
(Anna Moran, Kenai, 2007)

Fourth District            0

District Court      6 of 21 (29%)

First District              0

Second District            0

Third District              5      (Cathy Easter, Anchorage, 2008)  
(Stephanie Rhoades, Anchorage, 1992)  
(Pamela Scott-Washington, Anchorage, 2010 )  
(Margaret Murphy, Homer, 2005)  
(Sharon Illsley, Kenai, 2007)

Fourth District            1      (Jane Kauvar, Fairbanks, 1981)

**Magistrates              25 of 43 (58%)**

First District              8      (Elaine Kookesh, Angoon – Kay Clark, Craig – Maureen  
DesRosiers, Hoonah – Amanda Schultz, Ketchikan –  
Darlene Whitehorn, Petersburg – Susan Reed, Skagway  
– Chris Ellis Wrangell – Mary Kay Havens, Yakutat)

Second District            3      (Mary Triber, Barrow – Brook Alowa, Kotzebue – Heide  
Ivanoff, Unalakleet)

Third District              7      (Carmen Clark, Anchorage – Tina Teaford, Anchorage –  
Kay Adams, Cordova – Jean Wilkinson, Glennallen –  
Jennifer Wells, Kenai – Jennifer King, Naknek – Jane  
Pearson, Unalaska)

Fourth District            7      (Tracy Blais, Delta Junction - Bethany Harbison,  
Fairbanks – Nikole Schick, Fairbanks – Alicemary  
Rasley, Fairbanks – Patty Burley, Bethel – Darlene  
Johnson-Edwards, Emmonak – Nancy Phillips, St.  
Mary's)