



26th Alaska State Legislature

House Finance Budget Subcommittee

Alaska Court System

FY 11 Operating Budget

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Rep. Bill Stoltze
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Capitol Room 428
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February 19, 2010

Subcommittee Report FY11 Highlights

The House Finance Budget Subcommittee (HFBS) on the Alaska Court System submits an operating budget for FY11 as follows:

DGF \$0.0 UGF \$91,311.4 Fed Funds \$1,675.6 Other Funds \$1,686.3

Total \$94,673.3.

The HFBS budget authorizes \$4,004.4 less general funds and 26 fewer employees than the Governor's Amended FY11 request. The FY11 subcommittee budget requests a total increment from FY11 Adjusted Base of \$1,348.0 general funds.

The subcommittee worked together with the court system administration to address the prioritization of needs provided by court personnel.

Reductions in the budget disallowed the addition of numerous permanent full and part-time positions. Court initiatives were partially funded in amounts consistent with the phasing approach approved in prior year budgets. These initiatives include No-Dark Courtrooms, the elimination of vacancy savings for judicial positions and the geographic cost differentials for non-judicial employees.

The general fund increment request for transcript costs for the Public Defender (PD) and Office of Public Advocacy (OPA) was replaced with inter-agency receipts (I/A Rcpts). The transcription services used by the PD and OPA can no longer be absorbed within the Courts budget. I/A Rcpts are authorized allowing the PD and OPA to enter into reimbursable service agreements with the Courts for this need.

After a detailed review, relatively small funding increments requested by the Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct and the Judicial Council were not approved.

Intent language from FY10 to consolidate all Therapeutic Courts activities within the established Therapeutic Courts component was not implemented in the FY11 budget presented by the Governor. This issue will be taken up by the standing committee for further discussion and possible implementation.

The Nome court facility currently resides in an aging federal building. The federal government has advised the court system of its intent to remove this property from its inventory. The building has been offered to the court system at no cost; however, the building is over 50 years old and has significant structural, mechanical and environmental issues. A solution must be identified and pursued during this fiscal year.