

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2019 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	SCS CSHB 49(FIN)
Fiscal Note Number:	35
(S) Publish Date:	5/13/2019

Identifier: HB049CS(FIN)AM-DPS-LAB-05-09-19
 Title: CRIMES; SENTENCING;DRUGS;THEFT;
 REPORTS
 Sponsor: RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR
 Requester: (S) FIN

Department: Department of Public Safety
 Appropriation: Statewide Support
 Allocation: Laboratory Services
 OMB Component Number: 527

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2020 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2020 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2020	FY 2020					
Personal Services	162.6		216.8	216.8	216.8	216.8	216.8
Travel							
Services	158.4						
Commodities	21.5		62.0	62.0	62.0	62.0	62.0
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	342.5	0.0	278.8	278.8	278.8	278.8	278.8

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	342.5		278.8	278.8	278.8	278.8	278.8
Total	342.5	0.0	278.8	278.8	278.8	278.8	278.8

Positions

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

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2019) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2020) 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 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

This version reflects changes made in the House to sections relating to submission and testing of sexual assault examination kits, including an effective date of January 1, 2020.

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Phone: (907)465-4336
 Date: 05/09/2019
 Date: 05/09/19

REPORTED OUT OF
SFC 05/13/2019

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**Analysis**

This bill amends AS 44.41 by adding a new section that requires law enforcement agencies to submit to the state crime lab for testing, all sexual assault kits collected by the agency within 30 days after collection; requires the state crime lab to test all eligible sexual assault kits within one year of a sexual assault kit being received by the crime lab; and requires that reasonable attempts be made to notify victims within two weeks after completion of the testing that their sexual assault kit has been tested.

Presently, not every sexual assault kit collected by law enforcement is submitted to the crime lab for scientific analysis. Approximately 120 kits fall into this category annually. This fiscal note assumes that, once received by the crime lab, all sexual assault kits will be tested except those defined as ineligible under the bill.

The crime lab estimates two additional Forensic Scientist III positions would be needed to address the increase in caseload and meet the required turnaround time for processing for a total annual cost of \$216,824. Necessary consumables (chemicals for testing) associated with testing completed by the two additional staff is estimated at \$62,000 annually. The two additional staff will enable the lab to maintain current turnaround times in all types of DNA casework in addition to meeting the one-year turnaround time requirement for sexual assault kits. However, if the crime lab continues to see an increase in DNA case submissions as it has this fiscal year, prioritization of sexual assault cases will continue to increase over other DNA requests (such as property crimes) increasing the backlog and turnaround time of nonpriority cases.

Additionally, the crime lab will need to outsource testing of sexual assault kits in the first year to account for the amount of time and resources needed to fully train new staff while continuing to meet processing timeframes at an estimated cost of \$158,400.

Should this bill pass, the total first year costs are estimated at \$342,512 which includes nine months of personal services costs for two new Forensic Scientist III positions, the cost for consumables for training the new staff, and a six-month outsource contract to maintain turnaround times while the new staff are trained. Second and subsequent year costs are estimated at \$278,824 for continued funding of two positions and annual costs for necessary consumables.