Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2024 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	CSSB 147(L&C)
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(S) Publish Date:	2/23/2024

Identifier: SB147-DOLWD-WC-01-04-24
Title: REEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS
Sponsor: KAUFMAN
Requester: (S) L&C

Department: Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Appropriation: Workers' Compensation
Allocation: Workers' Compensation
OMB Component Number: 344

Expenditures/Revenues

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

	FY2025 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2025 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	**FY 2025**	**FY 2025**	**FY 2026**	**FY 2027**	**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2024) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2025) 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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? N/A

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Initial version.

Prepared By: Alexis Hildebrand signing for Charles Collins, Director — Phone: (907)465-2790
Division: Workers' Compensation Division — Date: 02/09/2024
Approved By: Dan DeBartolo, Director — Date: 02/09/24
Agency: DOLWD Administrative Services Division

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Analysis

This legislation addresses the issues of retraining and reporting reemployment evaluations under Workers' Compensation. It changes the eligibility evaluation date from 90 days to 120 days. Moving the date for required evaluation allows the time required for injured employees to become medically stable before spending money on an evaluation that may be premature, and based on the employee's condition. Changing the evaluation period will save employer benefit funding, as evaluations are less likely to be performed untimely due to the short date in the Workers Compensation Act.

Concurrently, the Reemployment Benefits Administrator can order an evaluation if evidence warrants. Reports from evaluations are required by the 60-day mark, a more appropriate request as the average report takes forty-five days.

Retraining plan costs have been adjusted to a level that is alligned with current costs. An adjustment in the plan benefit was last implemented in 2000.

The Division does not anticipate any expected costs as a result of this legislation.