

**Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
FY23 Mid-Year Status Report**

Item #	Approp / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Comment	LFD Questions	Agency Comments
1	Executive Administration / Commissioner's Office	CC: Small Business Grants for Small Business Innovation Research or Small Business Technology Transfer Grantees	\$125.0 Gen Fund (UGF)	The legislature added grant funding to support small businesses.	Please provide an update on the current status of this new grant program, when the Department anticipates the program will be available to the public, and if the Department plans to distribute these funds in FY23.	Program development for this new grant program is underway. The department anticipates that a program timeline and additional information on the grant program will be available in January. The department anticipates distributing the funds in FY2023, pending applications from interested parties.
2	Executive Administration / Alaska Broadband Office	Ch. 52, SLA 2022 (HB 363) BROADBAND: OFFICE, GRANTS, PARITY and IJJA Division F Title I Broadband - Establish Alaska Broadband Office for Broadband Program Implementation (FY23-FY27)	Total: \$912.7 \$399.7 CIP Rcpts (Other) FisNot, \$513.0 CIP Rcpts (Other) 3 TFT Positions IncT	The legislature adjusted the fiscal note for HB 363 to reflect \$513.0 of Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Receipts already included the operating bill (HB 281). The fiscal note was reduced by that amount, and included a fund change from Federal Receipts to CIP Receipts to be consistent with HB 281. Additionally, the legislature approved a proposal to establish a new allocation for the Alaska Broadband Office, which will implement a broadband program for the state of Alaska with federal resources received through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Three Temporary Full-Time Positions: Director of Broadband, range 26 Broadband Technician, range 22 Project Administrator, range 18	Have these positions been created and filled? If so, please provide hire dates.	The department created four positions to support the Alaska Broadband Office: - Broadband Director, hired 09/12/2022 - Deputy Director, hire is imminent. - Tribal Liaison, hired 10/05/2022 - Project Administrator, hired 01/02/2022 In FY2023, three of the positions are funded from federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) funds and one position is funded through a Federal Relief Statewide Planning Economic Development Grant from the Economic Development Agency that included support for broadband development. In FY2024 all positions will be funded from BEAD funds, in addition to two Grant Administrators that are requested in the Community and Regional Affairs component.
3	Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing / Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing	Add Occupational Licensing Examiners for the Board of Nursing and Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers	\$206.2 Rcpt Svcs (DGF) 2 PFT Positions	This increment funds two new Occupational Licensing Examiners (OLEs), range 14, to support the Board of Nursing and Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers. Both OLEs are located in Anchorage.	Have these positions been created and filled? If so, please provide hire dates.	Two positions were created: - 08-2131 for thr Board of Nursing, filled November 2021. - 08-2130 for the Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers, filled December 2021.

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4	Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing / Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing	Professional License Fee Freeze for FY2023 IncOTI	\$1,100.0 Gen Fund (UGF)	This increment allows the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing to maintain the temporary suspension of professional licensing fees in FY23 and offset receipt collection with UGF.	This one-time increment is \$400K lower than the amount appropriated for this purpose in FY22. Based on the most current data available, does the Department anticipate that this level of funding will be sufficient to maintain agency operations?	The Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing reviews and sets fees on a biennial basis for professional licensing programs. The appropriated amount for FY2023 was sufficient to offset projected revenue deficits for the impacted programs and continue operations.
6	Insurance Operations / Insurance Operations	Health Payment and Utilization Database for Reporting and Data Management	\$1,500.0 Rcpt Svcs (DGF) IncOTI	The legislature added a one-time increment to establish a database for tracking health insurance payments and utilization.	Please provide a status update on the procurement of the database as well as the development of the data collection standards that the Department of Health must follow.	Procurement of the project is complete, and data collection is slated to be complete by June 30, 2023.
7	Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute / Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute	Sec 64(h), HB 281 Reappropriate FY2022 Trade Promotion Funding Through FY2024 as Multi-Year Appropriation	Net Zero	In the FY2022 budget the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute (ASMI) received a one-time appropriation for \$7 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act receipt authority, though the federal funding is permitted to be expended through FY2024. The legislature reappropriated that FY22 item and converted it to a multi-year appropriation to allow the funds to be expended so long as they are available.	How has ASMI used this temporary infusion of federal funds? Are the funds fully obligated or does the Department anticipate that funds will remain available through FY24?	ASMI received multi-year authority to spend \$7 million of federal American Rescue Plan Act funding in FY2022 and FY2023. The full amount of available federal funding was spent in FY2022 to execute timely domestic and international marketing efforts needed to build up the Alaska Seafood brand and industry in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.