
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

March 26, 2020



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COVID-19 — ALASKA — 3/24/20

Alaska Legislature. As of March 24, 2020, the Alaska legislature was still in session. Access to the capitol building is restricted to legislators, staff, and credentialed media. Enacted March 16, [HB 206](#) appropriates \$4.0 million from the general fund to the Department of Health and Social Services, [Division of Public Health](#), contingent upon the cost of COVID-19 response and mitigation in the state exceeding federal receipts. Awaiting the governor's signature, [HB 243](#) appropriates \$8.5 million to the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development to provide grants to cities impacted by a COVID-19 outbreak on a cruise ship.

Governor's Actions. On March 11, Governor Mike Dunleavy issued a [public health disaster declaration](#) in response to COVID-19. Since that time, the governor has taken a number of [actions](#), including closing schools until May 1; closing state-operated libraries, archives, and museums to the public through March 31; closing all food and beverage establishments to public dine-in service; and issuing an emergency order requiring a 14-day self-quarantine for anyone entering the state. On March 20, the governor unveiled an economic stabilization plan, calling on the legislature to authorize an additional payment from the Permanent Fund to eligible Alaskans in addition to the annual payment scheduled for October. As of March 24, legislation regarding Permanent Fund payments is under discussion in the Alaska Senate.

COVID-19 Cases. As of March 23, Alaska had 36 cases of COVID-19, including the first 4 confirmed cases of community spread.

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