



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Potential Impacts of a Government Shutdown to Services Provided by Department of Administration

June 8, 2017, Juneau, AK - In response to the lack of a fully funded budget and the resulting threat of a government shutdown, the Department of Administration (DOA) sent out layoff notifications to all executive branch employees. DOA is obligated by contracts to provide employees with 30 days' notice of possible layoffs when possible.

"This is the second time in three years we have had to send notification letters to employees warning of a potential shutdown. The time and energy spent preparing for this situation every year is a waste of resources," stated DOA Commissioner Sheldon Fisher. "This uncertainty is bad for state employees and the public who depend on state services. I share Governor Walker's hope that the Legislature will finish their work so we can continue with ours. "

DOA has the unique role of providing services to other state agencies and state employees as well as to the public. DOA is working with the Department of Law to analyze the impacts of a shutdown to determine which services we may be allowed to continue without a budget.

The following DOA services are potentially at risk of being shut down, delayed or interrupted if the legislature fails to pass a fully funded budget before July 1:

Services to the Public

- DMV offices statewide, along with Business Partners and Commission Agents who deliver DMV services such as driver's licenses, commercial vehicle road tests, and registrations
- Procurement services such as vendor purchasing directly impact small businesses that rely on an estimated \$1.7 million daily in state contracts
- Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC) offices statewide provide oversight on elected officials and lobbyists
- Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (AOGCC) inspectors, engineers, and other staff support industry work
- Violent Crimes Compensation Board provides payments to victims of crime for recovery services
- Alaska Public Broadcasting grant funding supports public radio and television services
- Lease payments to private businesses for hundreds of state leases
- Administrative appeals for issues such as child support, Medicaid and public assistance benefits, substantiation of child abuse and neglect, and other cases
- Processing of retirement applications and delivery of retirement payments

Services to Employees and Agencies

- Bargaining of labor contracts, including marine highway employee contracts currently under negotiation
- Human resources services including training and recruitment assistance
- Centralized mail services
- Maintenance and management of state-owned buildings, parking lots, and other facilities
- Accounting and other financial services, including required public reporting
- Enterprise technology services such as IT support and telecommunications

This year's preparations for a government shutdown are different than in 2015, when the legislature had passed a partially funded budget. This year, money has not been appropriated for any government services. As a government shutdown in Alaska is unprecedented, Department of Law is examining what money could be spent to continue vital state services if the legislature has not fulfilled its constitutional obligation to pass a budget.

In the event of a shutdown, there will be minimal staff at the Department of Administration to continue providing personnel updates and layoff information to state employees separated from service through their primary website, www.DOA.alaska.gov and the toll-free hotline [844-465-4688](tel:844-465-4688).