

From: [Sheehan, Kate E \(DOA\)](#)
To: [SOA All Employees Executive Branch](#)
Subject: Potential government shut down
Date: Thursday, June 17, 2021 2:45:17 PM

Dear Alaska State Employee,

I regret to inform you of a potential partial government shutdown. A partial shutdown could occur as a result of the Legislature failing to pass next year's annual budget with language providing an effective date of July 1, 2021. The effective date for the budget provides authority for the Executive Branch to spend certain funds. Under Article II, Section 18 of the Alaska Constitution, a spending bill takes effect 90 days after it is enacted. An earlier immediate effective date is possible only when 2/3 of the legislators in the House (27) and Senate (14) agree. Because that effective date concurrence did not pass both bodies with the 2/3 majority, the earliest the operating budget can come into effect is 90 days from enactment, which would be sometime in September. We are hopeful the legislature will still take action to and we will not need to proceed with the shut down.

This will impact your employment status with the State of Alaska. On behalf of Governor Dunleavy as well as all of Commissioners, I assure you this action is no reflection on your service.

- For permanent and probationary employees in the classified service (typically this means you are represented by a union), you will be placed on layoff from your current position effective July 1, 2021. You will receive notice by email should your layoff be rescinded prior to July 1, 2021, or should you be recalled from layoff after July 1, 2021.
- For partially exempt and exempt employees (statutorily appointed employees), you will not need to report to work as of July 1, 2021. You will receive notice by email prior to July 1, 2021, should there be any changes to this direction, or after July 1, 2021, should your employment return to regular status.
- For non-permanent employees whose positions will continue beyond June 30, you will not need to report to work as of July 1, 2021, until further notice by email.
- For student, college, and graduate interns, you will not need to report to work as of July 1, 2021, until further notice by email.

This letter constitutes notice under your respective bargaining agreements or applicable statutes. No additional notice will be provided.

You have until June 29th to send in a leave cash-in. Please know that you will have health insurance until July but depending on the time of the shut down you may need to self pay your employee contribution. If you are a member of a collective bargaining unit, you may also want to contact your union for additional information; we are working closely with them. We are all here to assist you as much as possible.

Kate Sheehan
Director
Division of Personnel and Labor Relations