

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 63

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES MOSES, Dyson

SENATORS Hoffman, Taylor, Leman, Duncan

Introduced: 2/18/98

Referred: House Special Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs, Transportation

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to support for Mitchell Field Adak airport.

2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

3 WHEREAS the Mitchell Field Adak airport (Mitchell Field) is essential for providing
4 Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) air operation facilities to the communities of Atka and Shemya;
5 and

6 WHEREAS Adak's, Atka's, and Shemya's commercial and emergency services would
7 suffer without the continued availability of Mitchell Field; and

8 WHEREAS Mitchell Field is critical to operations of the United States Air Force at
9 Eareckson Air Station Base; and

10 WHEREAS saving lives and property depends on Mitchell Field being operated as a
11 search and rescue center in the North Pacific, the Bering Sea, and the Western Aleutians; and

12 WHEREAS Mitchell Field is essential for the reuse of over 1,000 structures on Adak
13 Island; and

14 WHEREAS Mitchell Field allows crew transfer services that would otherwise occur
15 in Vancouver, British Columbia, or Seattle, Washington to take place in Alaska; and

16 WHEREAS operation of Mitchell Field allows increased Alaska fish sales to the
17 Orient and additional mining and oil and gas support to Eastern Russian; and

1 **WHEREAS** Mitchell Field provides an essential emergency jet airport for international
2 air carriers operating on over-the-pole flights; and

3 **WHEREAS** operation of Mitchell Field assists the federal government in fisheries
4 enforcement activities; and

5 **WHEREAS** there is currently a 22,000,000 gallon storage tank capacity at Adak,
6 making Adak a promising staging area for the fishing industry and the Pacific Fleet; and

7 **WHEREAS** Adak has existing housing facilities, roads, schools, a hospital, and other
8 utilities to support a community of at least 5,000 residents; and

9 **WHEREAS** the Adak Reuse Corporation needs the financial support of the United
10 States government and of the State of Alaska;

11 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature requests that the Congress of
12 the United States appropriate to the Federal Aviation Administration the funds necessary to
13 keep the Mitchell Field Adak airport operational and maintained by the State of Alaska and
14 that the funds be provided to the Adak Reuse Corporation for these purposes.

15 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jane F. Garvey,
16 Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the
17 Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
18 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.