

# **Alaska House of Representatives**

## **Representative Craig Johnson**

### **House Rules Chairman**

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### **Sponsor Statement for House Bill 115**

Naming Walter J. Hickel Expressway

Walter J. Hickel served as the Governor of Alaska twice, served with distinction as U.S. Secretary of the Interior, and led and inspired the development of the State of Alaska and the Circumpolar Arctic Region throughout his long and distinguished career. In Governor Hickel's many elected and public roles he successfully pushed to open Prudhoe Bay to oil development and oversaw the permitting process for the Trans Alaska Pipeline among many other accomplishments.

HB 115 designates concurrently naming a portion of Minnesota Drive and O'Malley Road in Anchorage the Walter J. Hickel Expressway from 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the New Seward Highway. This section of highway is 7.5 miles long and by concurrently naming this section of highway there will be no need for any household or business to change their addresses.