

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

1998

Source
HJR 63

Legislative
Resolve No.
81



Relating to support for Mitchell Field Adak airport.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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