

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 437

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to naming the Robert J. Mitchell  
7 Expressway."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 \* Section 1. FINDINGS. Robert J. Mitchell was a life-long Alaskan and  
10 a life-long resident of the interior, born on November 2, 1918. Robert J.  
11 Mitchell was an employee of the Alaska Road Commission during early adult-  
12 hood and was a founder of Mitchell Truck and Tractor, an early Interior  
13 transportation company. Robert J. Mitchell was also one of the founders of  
14 GHEMM, Inc., an important Alaska construction firm and was one of the first  
15 persons to develop the potential of the current south Fairbanks industrial  
16 area. Through Robert J. Mitchell's efforts, a major rail spur from  
17 Fairbanks through the south Fairbanks industrial area to the east side of  
18 the International Airport was constructed. The new South Fairbanks  
19 Expressway is routed immediately adjacent to the area that Robert J.  
20 Mitchell was so deeply involved with before passing away on February 23,  
21 1980. Robert J. Mitchell left behind a legacy of a strong family unit,  
22 friendship to all, knowledge of the value of positive thought, and un-  
23 daunting faith in the future of Fairbanks and Alaska. The legislature  
24 wishes to remember Robert J. Mitchell's positive contribution to the people  
25 of the Interior and to the development of the south Fairbanks industrial  
26 area. It is to accomplish this goal that the section of the Alaska Highway  
27 System from the new Airport Road Interchange to the Richardson Highway is  
28 to be named the Robert J. Mitchell Expressway.

29 \* Sec. 2. AS 35.40 is amended by adding a new section to read:

1           **Sec. 35.40.030. ROBERT J. MITCHELL EXPRESSWAY. The South Fair-**  
2           **banks Expressway between the Parks Highway and Airport Road inter-**  
3           **change to the Richardson Highway is named the Robert J. Mitchell**  
4           **Expressway.**