

Miller Moves to Expedite Paving Of Bethel Airport

JUNEAU—Governor Keith H. Miller moved to expedite the widening, extending, and paving of the Bethel Airport runway.

The Governor asked the Senate and House Finance Committees to include the \$1.4 million for the project in House Bill 455, a supplemental request, rather than leave it in the budget for the next fiscal year.

Miller explained that if the project were included in the budget, the funds would not become available until July 1. He said this procedure would cause the loss of practically an entire construction season.

"The expanding traffic in and out of Bethel is demanding immediate facilities for the use of jets," Miller said. "Jet service to Bethel will improve the service and rates to the area."

The Governor said if the funds are included in the supplemental the money for the project will become immediately available upon legislative approval of House Bill 455.

"I believe that having the money available prior to July 1 would definitely be in the best interests of the State," Miller said. "Immediate funding would permit equipment to move in early with a resultant head start on the total project."