

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
1961 SESSION

CHAPTER 1094
HOUSE BILL 313

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF BENTONVILLE
2 BATTLEGROUND STATE HISTORIC SITE.
3

4 WHEREAS, the Battle of Bentonville, March 19-21, 1865, was the Confederacy's
5 only full scale stand against General Sherman's campaign through the Carolinas and was the
6 last major battle of the War Between the States, and now is receiving publicity over the Nation
7 as one of the important events to be commemorated during the Centennial of that War; and

8 WHEREAS, appropriations by the General Assembly of 1957 and later, as well as
9 twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) raised privately, have made it possible to acquire the
10 main portion of the battlefield, including the Confederate Hospital and the Confederate
11 Cemetery, and to maintain it as a State Historic Site; and

12 WHEREAS, it has not been possible to develop the battlefield sufficiently to
13 accommodate the hundreds of thousands of visitors and tourists who, according to present
14 visitation trends, are expected to visit the battlefield during the Centennial years; and

15 WHEREAS, in order to reap the benefits of this increased interest in Bentonville
16 Battleground both within the State and over the Nation, engendered by the Centennial, it is
17 necessary to provide without delay a battlefield museum-visitor center and also to provide the
18 means to complete the restoration of the Confederate Hospital and other historic features of the
19 battlefield; and

20 WHEREAS, in order to be prepared for the nationally important exercises expected
21 to be held at Bentonville early in 1965, on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of the
22 battle, it is important that funds for these purposes be provided in 1961: Now, therefore,
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24 The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:
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26 **Section 1.** There is hereby appropriated from the General Fund of the State to the
27 Department of Archives and History the sum of twenty-six thousand dollars (\$26,000.00) to be
28 used for the following purposes: Construction and equipping of a visitor center-museum
29 building, completion of the restoration of the Confederate Hospital (Harper House) and two
30 outbuildings.

31 **Sec. 2.** All laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

32 **Sec. 3.** This Act shall be in full force and effect upon its ratification.

33 In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 21st day of June,
34 1961.