An Act to Appropriate Funds for Renovations and Improvements of Forsyth County's Smith Reynolds Airport.

Whereas, the Smith Reynolds Airport has been designated a North Carolina Legacy Airport; and

Whereas, the Smith Reynolds Airport is a critical part of North Carolina's transportation system, linking our State to the global economy and generating economic activity, commerce, and tourism; and

Whereas, the Smith Reynolds Airport contributed $814 million in economic output to the State and 3,655 jobs to the State economy in 2020, which was the largest economic contribution among North Carolina general aviation airports; and

Whereas, the Smith Reynolds Airport provides an effective base of operations for aircraft maintenance, corporate aircraft, air charter services, general aviation, flight training, and air cargo; and

Whereas, the Forsyth Technical Community College's Mazie S. Woodruff Aviation Technology Lab at the Smith Reynolds Airport will open in August 2021 to prepare students for high-paying jobs in aircraft maintenance; and

Whereas, the Smith Reynolds Airport's terminal was constructed in the 1940s, renovated in the 1980s, and has remained untouched since; and

Whereas, the Smith Reynolds Airport has maximized usage of available hangar space; and

Whereas, the Smith Reynolds Airport's Quonset hangar is a World War II era hangar that is in need of refurbishment; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to Forsyth County the sum of thirty million dollars ($30,000,000) for the 2021-2022 fiscal year for renovations and improvements of its Smith Reynolds Airport. These funds shall be used to renovate and improve the Airport's terminal, corporate hangars, and Quonset hangar; repair, overhaul, and improve the other hangars; and provide maintenance of the runways, ramps, airfield infrastructure, and taxiways.

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 2021.