

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2459

To provide for improvements to aircraft hangars, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 22, 2021

Mr. INHOFE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To provide for improvements to aircraft hangars, and for
other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Hangars Accelerate
5 National Growth And Regional Stability Act” or the
6 “HANGARS Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. HANGAR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR GENERAL**
8 **AVIATION AIRPORTS.**

9 (a) PROGRAM.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transpor-
11 tation (in this section referred to as the “Sec-

1 retary”) shall establish a program under which the
 2 Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities for
 3 an eligible project at the airport.

4 (2) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity seeking a
 5 grant under the program under this section shall
 6 submit an application to the Secretary at such time,
 7 in such manner, and containing such information as
 8 the Secretary may require.

9 (b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—In this section, the term
 10 “eligible entity” means a sponsor of a—

11 (1) public-use airport that is not a primary air-
 12 port (as such terms are defined in section 47102 of
 13 title 49, United States Code); or

14 (2) general aviation airport (as defined in such
 15 section 47102).

16 (c) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—In this section, the term “el-
 18 igible project” means a project to construct, repair,
 19 or improve an aircraft hangar facility.

20 (2) PLANNING AND ACQUISITION COSTS.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
 22 graph (B), an eligible project may include costs
 23 incurred—

1 (i) to prepare a plan or specifications,
2 including carrying out a field investigation,
3 for the eligible project; and

4 (ii) to acquire land and install utilities
5 connected to the development of the eligi-
6 ble project.

7 (B) LIMITATION.—Not more than 10 per-
8 cent of the amount of a grant awarded under
9 this section may be used for the costs described
10 in subparagraph (A).

11 (d) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the
12 costs of an eligible project carried out with a grant under
13 this section is 95 percent.

14 (e) PRIORITY CONSIDERATION.—In awarding grants
15 under the program under this section, the Secretary shall
16 give priority consideration to eligible projects—

17 (1) that will be completed within 2 years of the
18 grant award;

19 (2) that leverage private sector investments to
20 build or improve facilities at the airport; and

21 (3) that—

22 (A) achieve a complete development objec-
23 tive;

24 (B) are located on a statewide aviation
25 master plan; or

1 (C) are located on an airport's master
2 plan.

3 (f) REQUIREMENTS.—For any grant awarded under
4 this section, the Secretary shall ensure that the eligible
5 project is—

6 (1) owned and operated by the sponsor of the
7 eligible airport;

8 (2) used on a non-exclusive basis; and

9 (3) made available and used for public aero-
10 nautical purposes, including aircraft storage and
11 maintenance.

12 (g) GRANT LIMIT.—For grants awarded under this
13 section, not more than \$5,000,000 may be made available
14 to a single eligible project.

15 (h) ADMINISTRATION.—Of the amounts made avail-
16 able under subsection (i), the Secretary may retain up to
17 3 percent for personnel, contracting, and other costs to
18 administer and oversee grants made under this section.

19 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
20 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary
21 \$1,000,000,000 for the purpose of carrying out this sec-
22 tion. Amounts appropriated under the preceding sentence
23 shall remain available until expended.

1 **SEC. 3. HANGAR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR PRIMARY**
 2 **AIRPORTS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Public Works and
 4 Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3141 et
 5 seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

6 **“SEC. 219. GRANTS FOR HANGAR IMPROVEMENT.**

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—On the application of an eligible
 8 recipient, the Secretary may make grants to construct, re-
 9 pair, or improve an aircraft hangar facility to further the
 10 economic adjustment objectives of this subchapter.

11 “(b) CRITERIA FOR GRANT.—The Secretary may
 12 make a grant under this section if the Secretary deter-
 13 mines that—

14 “(1) the eligible project for which the grant is
 15 applied will, directly or indirectly—

16 “(A) improve the opportunities, in the area
 17 where the eligible project is or will be located,
 18 for the successful establishment or expansion of
 19 aircraft maintenance and repair hangar facili-
 20 ties;

21 “(B) leverage private sector investments to
 22 build or improve hangar facilities at the airport;

23 “(C) assist in the creation of additional
 24 long-term employment opportunities in the
 25 area; or

1 “(D) improve the opportunities, in the area
2 where the eligible project is or will be located,
3 for air carriers to establish or increase commer-
4 cial routes;

5 “(2) the area for which the eligible project is to
6 be carried out has a comprehensive economic devel-
7 opment strategy and the eligible project is consistent
8 with the strategy; and

9 “(3) the eligible project is located on a state-
10 wide aviation master plan or on the airport’s master
11 plan.

12 “(c) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT.—In this section, the term
13 ‘eligible recipient’ has the meaning given such term in sec-
14 tion 3 and includes a primary airport (as defined in sec-
15 tion 47102 of title 49, United States Code).

16 “(d) ELIGIBLE PROJECT.—In this section, the term
17 ‘eligible project’ means a project to construct, repair, or
18 improve an aircraft hangar facility at a primary airport
19 (as defined in section 47102 of title 49, United States
20 Code).

21 “(e) FEDERAL SHARE.—Notwithstanding section
22 204, the Federal share of the costs of an eligible project
23 carried out with a grant under this section is 85 percent.

24 “(f) NOTICE OF FEDERAL INTEREST.—Notwith-
25 standing any other provision of law, any eligible recipient

1 awarded a grant under this section shall record a state-
 2 ment of the Federal Government's interest in the property
 3 improved through the grant in a form acceptable to the
 4 Secretary. The Secretary of Transportation shall cooper-
 5 ate with the Secretary as may be needed to facilitate the
 6 recording of such statement.

7 “(g) ADMINISTRATION.—Of the amounts made avail-
 8 able under subsection (h), the Secretary may retain up
 9 to 1 percent for personnel, contracting, and other costs
 10 to administer and oversee grants made under this section.

11 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
 12 is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary
 13 \$100,000,000 for the purpose of carrying out this section.
 14 Amounts appropriated under the preceding sentence shall
 15 remain available until expended.”.

16 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
 17 tents contained in section 1(b) of the Public Works and
 18 Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3121
 19 note) is amended by inserting after the item relating to
 20 section 218 the following:

“Sec. 219. Grants for hangar improvement.”.

