



1997 ASSEMBLY BILL 473

August 14, 1997 - Introduced by Representatives FREESE, DUFF, BAUMGART, POWERS, RILEY, OTT, MUSSER, REYNOLDS, M. LEHMAN, HUTCHISON, ROBSON and RYBA, cosponsored by Senators RUDE, GROBSCHMIDT, C. POTTER and BURKE. Referred to Committee on Rural Affairs.

1 **AN ACT to create** 20.245 (3) (c) and 44.46 of the statutes; **relating to:** historic
2 agricultural building grants, granting rule-making authority and making an
3 appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the state historical society is assigned numerous responsibilities related to historic preservation in this state. For example, the state historical society is required to maintain, publish and disseminate the state register of historic places and to serve as the principal agency of the state for the administration of historic preservation programs and activities of the federal government.

This bill creates a historic agricultural building grant program to be administered by the state historical society. Under the program, the state historical society is required to award grants to owners of historic agricultural buildings to fund the restoration of such buildings. Each grantee is required to make a matching contribution equalling the amount of the grant and to agree to use the restored building in a manner that is consistent with state public policy on historic preservation.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

ASSEMBLY BILL 473**SECTION 1**

1 **SECTION 1.** 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert
2 the following amounts for the purposes indicated:

1997-98 1998-99

3 **20.245 Historical society**

4 (3) HISTORIC AND BURIAL SITES PRESERVATION

5 (c) Historic agricultural building

6 grant program	GPR	A	75,000	75,000
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7 **SECTION 2.** 20.245 (3) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

8 20.245 (3) (c) *Historic agricultural building grant program.* The amounts in
9 the schedule for the historic agricultural building grant program under s. 44.46.

10 **SECTION 3.** 44.46 of the statutes is created to read:

11 **44.46 Historic agricultural building grant program. (1)** In this section,
12 “historic agricultural building” means any building or structure that is used
13 primarily for agricultural purposes and that is significant in the history, architecture
14 or culture of this state.

15 (2) From the appropriation under s. 20.245 (3) (c), the historical society shall
16 award grants to owners of historic agricultural buildings to provide assistance in the
17 restoration of such buildings. Grants shall be awarded on a matching basis, under
18 which, for each grant awarded, the historical society shall provide 50%, and the
19 grantee 50%, of the total grant funding.

20 (3) Before awarding any grants under sub. (2), the director shall promulgate
21 rules establishing procedures and criteria for awarding grants under this section.
22 The rules shall require that any grantee agree to use the total grant funding to
23 restore the historic agricultural building and, after such restoration, to use the

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1 historic agricultural building in a manner consistent with the public policy expressed
2 in s. 44.30.

3 (END)