
Wisconsin Legislative Council

ACT MEMO



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2021 Wisconsin Act 249
[2021 Assembly Bill 1031]

**State Historical Society
Remedial Legislation**

2021 Wisconsin Act 249 is remedial legislation introduced by the Law Revision Committee, at the request of the State Historical Society (SHS), and makes the following changes to laws administered by the society.

References to the Wisconsin Historical Museum

The act clarifies whether various statutory references to “the museum” mean the existing museum located at 30 N. Carroll Street in Madison, or a new museum yet to be constructed. The act also clarifies that admission fees collected at the new museum may be used to support the operations of the museum, in addition to supporting its public programming.

Duties of SHS

In addition to fixing grammatical errors in the statutes, the act expands upon the existing duty of SHS to preserve the memory of early **pioneers** and to obtain and preserve narratives of their exploits, perils, and adventures so that it also includes preserving the memory of early **residents** and obtaining and preserving narratives of their exploits, perils, and adventures.

Annual Report by SHS Affiliates

The act expands the required content of the annual report that an affiliate of SHS must file with SHS, thus matching the required content of the report the affiliate must file with Department of Financial Institutions.

Clarification of Authority to Charge Fees

The act clarifies that SHS may charge “fees” to defray, in part, the cost of materials and services that it furnishes to schools and to teachers. Prior law authorized SHS to make “charges.”

Effective date: April 10, 2022

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