

CHAPTER 410

AN ACT to renumber 44.10; to repeal and recreate 44.01; and to create 44.02 (11), 44.10 (2) of the statutes, relating to the powers and duties of the state historical society and making an appropriation.

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

SECTION 1. 44.01 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

44.01 STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY; POWERS. The state historical society of Wisconsin organized under an act of the legislature approved on March 4, 1853, shall continue to possess the powers and privileges thereby conferred, subject to this chapter and such laws as shall hereafter be enacted, and its acceptance of the benefits herein granted and renewed shall be conclusively deemed its complete acquiescence therein. Among the purposes of the society shall be to promote a wider appreciation of the American heritage with particular emphasis on the collection, advancement and dissemination of knowledge of the history of Wisconsin and of the west. Said society shall be an official agency and the trustee of the state, and as such shall faithfully expend and apply all money received to the fulfillment of its duties and purposes as directed by law. It shall hold all its present and future collections and property for the state. It shall not sell, mortgage, transfer or dispose of in any manner or remove from its buildings, except for temporary purposes, any article therein without authority of law. The society may sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of duplicate books, periodicals or museum objects, or books, periodicals and museum objects outside its fields of collection. There shall continue to be a board of curators of said society, constituted with substantially the same powers as at present, of which the governor, secretary of state and state treasurer shall be ex officio members and insure that the interests of the state are protected. The society may acquire real or personal property by gift, bequest or otherwise in any amount and may operate, manage, sell, rent or convey real estate acquired by gift, bequest, foreclosure or other means, upon such terms and conditions as its board of curators deems for its interests.

SECTION 2. 44.02 (11) of the statutes is created to read:

44.02 (11) To work with the auxiliaries, affiliates and chapters established under s. 44.03 in the encouragement, stimulation and development of worth-while historical projects and undertakings at the county and local level.

SECTION 3. 44.10 of the statutes is renumbered 44.10 (1).

SECTION 4. 44.10 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

44.10 (2) The board of curators may establish county records depositories within the regions served by the regional depositories established in sub. (1). The board may enter into agreements with these county depositories similar to those provided above for regional depositories, and records may be loaned temporarily from regional depository to a county depository, title in all cases remaining in the state society. The union list of records of county, city, village, town, school district or other local governmental units, or court, provided in sub. (1) shall indicate such transfers or loans of records between depositories so as to show at all times the present location of each group of records.

Approved July 20, 1957.