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Senate BILL NO. 344
INTRODUCED BY *Fasbender, Harold*

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MAY USE PROCEEDS FROM SALES OF SURPLUS AND DUPLICATE ARTICLES EXCLUSIVELY FOR ACQUISITION OF LIBRARY, ART, AND MUSEUM ARTIFACTS; AMENDING SECTION 44-523, R.C.M. 1947."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 44-523, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to read as follows:

"44-523. Powers and duties of trustees. The powers and duties of the trustees are as follows:

(1) To elect annually from among their number a president, a vice-president, and a secretary.

(2) To adopt bylaws for their own government, and to make rules and regulations, not inconsistent with law, for the proper administration of the society in the interests of preserving the rich heritage of this state and its people.

(3) To appoint a director, fix his salary, and prescribe his duties and responsibilities.

(4) To create such classes of memberships in the society as they deem desirable, to determine the qualifications for any class of membership, and to set the

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fees to be paid for such memberships.

(5) To sell or exchange publications and ~~surplus copies--of--books--or~~ other museum or art objects and use the money arising from such sales for the operation of the society and for the acquisition of historical materials and objects of art.

(6) To sell or exchange surplus or duplicate books, surplus museum or art objects or artifacts not pertinent to the region encompassed by the Montana historical society mission and to use the money arising from such sales exclusively for acquisitions of library, art, and museum artifacts.

~~(6)~~--(7) To see that the collections and properties of the society are maintained in good order and repair.

~~(7)~~--(8) To report to the governor and the legislature biennially. The report shall include a statement of all important transactions and acquisitions, with suggestions and recommendations for the better realization of the purposes of the society and the improvement of its collections and services.

~~(8)~~--(9) To accept, receive and administer in the name of the society, any gifts, donations, properties, securities, bequests and legacies that may be made to the society. Moneys received by donation, gift, bequest or legacy, unless otherwise provided by the donor, shall be

1 deposited in the state treasury and used for the general
2 operation of the society.

3 ~~(9)~~--(10) To collect, assemble, preserve and display
4 where appropriate, all obtainable books, pamphlets, maps,
5 charts, manuscripts, journals, diaries, papers, business
6 records, paintings, drawings, engravings, photographs,
7 statuary, models, relics, and all other materials
8 illustrative of the history of Montana in particular, and
9 generally of the Pacific Northwest, Northern Rocky Mountain
10 and Northern Great Plains regions, and of the United States
11 of America when pertinent; to procure from pioneers, early
12 settlers and others, narratives of the events relative to
13 the early settlement of Montana, the Indian occupancy,
14 Indian and other wars, overland travel and immigration to
15 the territories of the west and all other related documents
16 of Montana's history, development and society; to gather
17 contemporary information, specimens, and all other materials
18 which exhibit faithfully the distinctive historical and
19 contemporary characteristics of the area with particular
20 attention to Indian, military and pioneer artifacts and
21 implements; to collect and preserve such natural history
22 objects as fossils, plants, minerals and animals; to collect
23 and preserve books, maps, manuscripts and other materials as
24 will tend to facilitate historical, scientific, and
25 antiquarian research; to promote the study of Montana

1 history by lectures and publications; to generally foster
2 and encourage the fine arts and cultural activities in
3 Montana; to receive for and on behalf of the state by
4 donation or otherwise, art objects of any kind and
5 description and to exhibit and circulate such objects in
6 Montana and elsewhere; and to microfilm papers or documents
7 in danger of disappearance or injury."

-End-

Approved by Committee
on State Administration

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