

No. 121, A.]

[Published June 15, 1945.]

CHAPTER 301.

AN ACT to repeal 45.056, 45.057, 45.058 and 45.065; to amend 45.06, 67.04 (1) (i), (2) (o) and (5) (k) and 70.11 (28); and to repeal and recreate 45.05 and 45.055 of the statutes, relating to memorials to persons serving in the military or naval services of the state or the United States and for other distinguished citizens.

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

SECTION 1. 45.056, 45.057, 45.058 and 45.065 of the statutes are repealed.

SECTION 2. 45.05 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

45.05 COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL MEMORIALS. (1) Any city council, village, town or county board may by gift, purchase, contract or condemnation acquire property, real or personal, for the purpose of providing, furnishing, constructing, erecting, repairing and maintaining a suitable memorial to the memory of former residents thereof who lost their lives in the military or naval service of the state or of the United States, or to commemorate and honor the deeds of the soldiers, sailors, marines and nurses who served the nation in any war, or of persons who rendered great state or national service, or to the memory of any president of the United States, or for a combination of any of such purposes.

(2) Such memorial shall be of such character as shall be determined by the governing body of such city, village, town or county, and without limitation because of enumeration, may comprise a public building, park, recreation facility, community forest or other suitable object having a public purpose.

(3) Any city council, town, village or county board may appropriate money and may levy a tax in order to acquire, pay for, construct, erect, furnish, equip, operate, repair, maintain or reconstruct a suitable memorial for the purpose or purposes provided in this section.

(4) Any city council or village, town or county board may authorize the use of any public property respectively of such city, village, town or county as a site for a memorial, and any

county may authorize its public property to be so used by any city, village or town therein.

(5) Any city council, village, town or county board may by ordinance or contract provide for the management, control or operation of any memorial, and it may enter into a written lease, for a term not exceeding 25 years, with any duly chartered and incorporated veterans' organization established in said town, city, or village, such lease to include provisions for the amount of rental and such conditions of public use as it may determine.

(6) Any county, city, village or town that has previously taken action toward the establishment of a monument or memorial under the statutes of 1943 or prior statutes may continue under such previously existing statutes or may proceed under this section.

SECTION 3. 45.055 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

45.055 JOINT MEMORIALS. Any city council or village, town or county board may contract with and make an appropriation to any other unit of government or to any nonprofit corporation without capital stock organized expressly for any of the purposes of section 45.05 and levy a tax therefor, provided that the facilities of such memorial are available to the residents of the governmental unit making such appropriation.

SECTION 4. 45.06 of the statutes is amended to read:

45.06 The action of any county board or municipality, or department thereof, in granting soldiers, * * * *sailors, marines and nurses who served the nation during any of its wars*, any other civic, patriotic, educational or historical society, rooms and space within public buildings for the establishment of memorial halls and museums, and occupancy thereof by its members, is hereby authorized and confirmed. Such county board or municipality is hereby empowered and authorized to permit the use and occupancy of such rooms and space for such term and subject to such conditions and provisions as may be by them imposed; provided, however, that any contract, lien or agreement between said county board, municipality or department thereof and any such organization now in force shall continue in force according to the terms thereof.

SECTION 5. 67.04 (1) (i), (2) (o) and (5) (k) of the statutes are amended to read:

67.04 (1) (i) To provide for or to aid in the erection of memorials to the soldiers, sailors, * * * marines and nurses, residents of the county, who served * * * *the nation during any of its wars*; but the amount of such bonds shall not exceed 5 mills on the dollar of the value of the taxable property in the county.

(2) (o) To provide or assist in providing a park, building, monument or other memorial, located within or without the city, in honor of the soldiers, sailors, marines and nurses, residents of the city, who served * * * *the nation during any of its wars*.

(5) (k) To provide or to assist in providing a park, building, monument or other memorial located within or without the corporate limits of the town, in honor of the soldiers, sailors, marines and nurses, residents of the town, who served * * * *the nation during any of its wars*; but the amount of such bonds shall not exceed 5 mills on the dollar of the value of the taxable property of the town.

SECTION 6. 70.11 (28) of the statutes is amended to read:

70.11 (28) All memorial halls and the real estate upon which the same are located, owned and occupied by the Grand Army of the Republic, Women's Relief Corps, Sons of Veterans, Spanish War Veterans, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Navy Clubs chartered by the Navy Club of the United States of America, Marine Corps League, Disabled American Veterans of the World War of the United States, or the Military Order of the Purple Heart, containing permanent memorial tablets with the names of * * * *former residents* of any given town, city or county, who * * * *lost their lives in the military or naval service of the state or the United States in any war* inscribed thereon, and all buildings erected * * *, purchased or maintained by any county, city, town or village as memorials * * * *under section 45.05 or section 45.055*. The renting of such halls or buildings for public purposes shall not render them taxable; provided that all income derived therefrom be used for the upkeep and maintenance thereof.

Approved June 13, 1945.