



5th Annual History Advocacy Day in Wisconsin Tuesday, February 23, 2022

Legislative Advocacy 101

Tell the legislator or staff member who you are and where you live. Explain why the Wisconsin Historical Society and your local history affiliate are important to you.

Example: How does the Wisconsin Historical Society improve your quality of life, foster civic engagement in your community, build community ties, and provide lifelong learning opportunities?

See below for talking point options:

1. Thank the legislator or staff member for their support of the Society and your local history affiliate for the 2021-2023 budget cycle.
 - Capital Budget: (SEE 2021-2023 capital budget document on webpage)
 - ✓ WHS received \$8,321,000 of general fund-supported borrowing to be matched with \$6,000,000 of gifts, grants, and other receipts for Old World Wisconsin.
 - ✓ WHS received \$4,000,000 of building trust funds to assist with project planning, development, design, site selection, and land and property acquisition for the new museum.
 - Biennial Budget: Sustained WHS's operating budget requests
 - American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Recovery Act Dollars:
 - ✓ WHS also received a million dollars from the ARPA State Recovery Act supported by the Governor and legislators for reopening and recovery costs of museums and statewide historic sites.
2. Museum Update
 - Siting the new Madison museum (document included on webpage)
3. Historic Sites Update
 - Back and Better Than Ever (document included on webpage)

4. Impact in Legislative Community

- Local CLG grants (document included on webpage)
- Map of district (document included on webpage)
- Scorecard and 411 (documents included on webpage)

5. Why are the Society's state budget priorities important for your community?

Because we are among the nation's oldest, largest, and most active state historical societies with world-class collections, the Society is a trusted source of historical information. We are proud to serve a critical role as the preservers and transmitters of cultural heritage from generation to generation.

The Society makes major contributions to Wisconsin's economic, educational and cultural health through innovative initiatives and programs. Our educational programs inform and entertain adults and challenge young people to think critically about their place in history.

Historic preservation improves Wisconsin's quality of life and reinvigorates neighborhoods. Our historic sites, museum, collections, archives, and programs promote tourism and provide for comprehensive study, appreciation, and enjoyment of North American history.

6. Closing comments

The Society wants Wisconsinites to find themselves as part of the state's story. By immersing the public in the lives of Wisconsin people past and present, we hope to invite people to participate in conversations that connect the past to the most vital issues of the present and future.

Example: "I support the Society and am proud to be a part of our great state's history. By immersing the public in the lives of the Wisconsin people, past and present, our State Historical Society and (my organization/I personally) hope to spark recognition and curiosity in our history, spurring conversations that connect the past to the most vital issues of the present and future."

Thank you for your time. Do you have any questions?