

**ST. JEAN BAPTISTE SOCIETIES**  
**Act 99 of 1871**

AN ACT to provide for the incorporation of St. Jean Baptiste societies; and to impose certain duties upon the department of commerce.

**History:** 1871, Act 99, Imd. Eff. Apr. 13, 1871;—Am. 1982, Act 78, Imd. Eff. Apr. 19, 1982.

*The People of the State of Michigan enact:*

**457.61 St. Jean Baptiste societies; incorporators; articles of association, execution, contents.**

Sec. 1. That whenever any 10 or more persons, residents of any county in this state, and being members of any St. Jean Baptiste society already formed, or any 10 or more persons, residents of any county in this state, desirous of forming such a society, desire to become incorporated, may make and execute articles of association under their hands and seals, which said articles of association shall be acknowledged before some officer of this state having authority to take acknowledgments of deeds, and shall set forth:

First. The names of the persons associating in the first instance, and their places of residence;

Second. The corporate name of the association, and the place where its meetings shall be held;

Third. The object and purpose of the association, which may be charitable, benevolent, or literary, or any 2, or all of these combined; and also the period for which it is incorporated, not exceeding 30 years.

**History:** 1871, Act 99, Imd. Eff. Apr. 13, 1871;—CL 1871, 3125;—How. 4604;—CL 1897, 7849;—CL 1915, 10285;—CL 1929, 10567;—CL 1948, 457.61.

**457.62 French as official language.**

Sec. 2. The French language may be adopted as the official language of such societies, and all records and proceedings may be kept, and all meetings held in that language, and translations of any of the documents belonging to such societies duly authenticated as correct translations of such documents, or of the original documents translated from the French into the English language, shall be received whenever necessary in all courts of law within this state.

**History:** 1871, Act 99, Imd. Eff. Apr. 13, 1871;—CL 1871, 3126;—How. 4605;—CL 1897, 7850;—CL 1915, 10286;—CL 1929, 10568;—CL 1948, 457.62.

**457.63 Filing copy of articles of association, constitution, and bylaws with department of commerce; signers and successors as body corporate and politic; powers, evidence of existence and incorporation.**

Sec. 3. A copy of said articles of association together with a copy of the constitution and bylaws of the association of which the persons executing said articles are members, duly translated into the English language and properly authenticated as a correct translation of the same, from the French into the English language, and duly sworn to and acknowledged as such, by the person translating the same, before some officer of this state having authority to take acknowledgments of deeds whenever said articles of association and the bylaws have been or shall be originally written in the French language, shall be filed with the corporation and securities bureau of the department of commerce and thereupon the persons who have signed said articles of association and their successors, shall be a body corporate and politic, and known in law and in fact by the name expressed in such articles of association; and by that name they and their successors shall have succession, and shall be persons in law capable of suing and being sued, and they and their successors may have a common seal and may alter and change the same at pleasure, and a certified copy of the record of such articles of association, under the seal of the corporations bureau of the department of commerce, shall be received as prima facie evidence of the due existence and incorporation of such association in all courts within this state.

**History:** 1871, Act 99, Imd. Eff. Apr. 13, 1871;—CL 1871, 3127;—How. 4606;—CL 1897, 7851;—CL 1915, 10287;—CL 1929, 10569;—CL 1948, 457.63;—Am. 1982, Act 78, Imd. Eff. Apr. 19, 1982.

**457.64 Directors; powers; ex-officio members.**

Sec. 4. The management and direction of the interests, affairs, and property of such association shall be vested in a board of directors of not less than 5, nor more than 20, of whom the officers of such association shall be ex-officio members of said board.

**History:** 1871, Act 99, Imd. Eff. Apr. 13, 1871;—CL 1871, 3128;—How. 4607;—CL 1897, 7852;—CL 1915, 10288;—CL 1929, 10570;—CL 1948, 457.64.

**457.65 Officers; election.**

Sec. 5. Every such association shall have full power and authority, by its by-laws or otherwise, from time to time to designate and elect from among its members such officers of such association as it may see fit under such name and style as may be in accordance with its constitution.

**History:** 1871, Act 99, Imd. Eff. Apr. 13, 1871;—CL 1871, 3129;—How. 4608;—CL 1897, 7853;—CL 1915, 10289;—CL 1929, 10571;—CL 1948, 457.65.

**457.66 State society; incorporation; filing copy of articles, constitution, and bylaws with department of commerce; powers and duties; object and purpose.**

Sec. 6. Any number of members, not less than 10, belonging to 1 or more such associations as is provided for in the foregoing sections, after becoming incorporated themselves, may proceed in like manner to form a state society of St. Jean Baptiste, in the manner, as near as may be, hereinbefore provided for the incorporation of associations by residents of counties, but shall in addition thereto file a copy of its articles of association, its constitution and bylaws with the corporation and securities bureau of the department of commerce, and such state association shall have such powers as may be granted to it, and shall perform such duties as may be prescribed for it by the county associations taking part in its organization; And provided, That its object and purpose shall be in accordance with the provisions of this act establishing county associations of St. Jean Baptiste: And provided further, That the county associations taking part in its organization may endow it with all requisite powers of superior jurisdiction, and the power of organizing new societies of St. Jean Baptiste, as from time to time it may deem necessary or proper.

**History:** 1871, Act 99, Imd. Eff. Apr. 13, 1871;—CL 1871, 3130;—How. 4609;—CL 1897, 7854;—CL 1915, 10290;—CL 1929, 10572;—CL 1948, 457.66;—Am. 1982, Act 78, Imd. Eff. Apr. 19, 1982.

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