

NORTH DAKOTA SENATE

STATE CAPITOL
600 EAST BOULEVARD
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



Senator Erin Oban

District 35
1005 North First Street
Bismarck, ND 58501-3519

R: 701-955-3188
C: 701-527-1642

eoban@nd.gov

COMMITTEES:

Education
Political Subdivisions

SB 2157 – ND Library Coordinating Council

March 5, 2021 | 9:00 am

House Political Subdivisions Committee, Rep. Dockter, Chair

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee. For the record, my name is Erin Oban, senator here in Bismarck's District 35. Thank you for the opportunity to be with you to introduce SB 2157, a bill I'm sponsoring at the request of the State Library. Our state librarian, Mary Soucie, is here with me today to provide any additional context or answer specific questions on the "why" or innerworkings of the Library Coordinating Council, but, generally speaking, they're running into challenges finding individuals who meet the specific requirements prescribed in law to serve.

Currently, the Library Coordinating Council consists of 11 members. The minor tweaks in the bill do not change the total number; just change some of those requirements for membership. I've outlined the changes in the table below:

Current make-up: 11 members	Make-up under SB 2157: 11 members
1 - President of Library Association (or designee)	1 - President of Library Association (or designee)
1 – State Librarian	1 – State Librarian
1 representing special libraries*	0
1 representing public higher ed institution	1 representing public/private higher ed institutions
1 representing private higher ed institution	
1 representing school libraries	Same - no change
2 representing public libraries	Same – no change
1 representing disabled, economically disadvantaged, and minority populations	Same – no change
2 citizens at large	Same – no change
	2 representing libraries, at large

*The definition of a special library is any library that is not a public, school, academic or national library. In ND, special libraries are medical, law, corrections, military or state agency libraries. State agency includes the North Dakota State Archives, the State Library and the Supreme Court Law Library (which is a law library of course and would fit in that category.) The other library that is considered a special library and doesn't quite fit in those categories is the Anne Carlsen Learning Center in Jamestown.

If you're interested in reviewing the power and duties of the Library Coordinating Council, they are outlined in Century Code Chapter 54-24.4. I'm also providing, just as an FYI, the Council's current membership as listed on the Governor's official website for Boards and Commissions.

Library Coordinating Council, North Dakota

Type of Board:	Advisory	Pay/Benefits:	State Rate
Voting Members:	10	Other Members:	0
Non-Voting Members:	1	Created by:	NDCC § 54-24.4
Length of Terms:	3 years, 2 term limit		
Frequency of Meetings:	Quarterly		
Address:	604 East Boulevard Avenue Dept. 250 Bismarck, ND 58505		
Phone:	(701) 328-4654		
Fax:	(701) 328-2040		
Website:	www.library.nd.gov/coordinatingcouncil.html		
Email:	msoucic@nd.gov		
Contact:	Mary Soucie or Cheryl Pollert		

The Council assist in planning, coordinating, and evaluating the services and programs of North Dakota libraries. The governor appoints two representatives from public libraries; one from a school library; one from a public higher education institution library; one from a private higher education institution library; one from a special library (law or medical); one to represent disabled economically disadvantaged, and minority populations; and two citizens at large. No member may be appointed to serve more than two consecutive terms.

Member Name	Position	Work	County	Appt. Date	Term Ends
Asselin, Stephanie	Disabled Representative	(701) 444-3785	McKenzie	9/30/2019	6/30/2021
Camisa, Jr, Joseph	Citizen at Large	(701) 751-4971		7/1/2019	6/30/2022
Dirks, Timothy	Public Library - Fargo	(701) 241-1493	Cass	12/21/2014	6/30/2023
Dockter, Sally	Public Higher Education	(701) 777-4640	Grand Forks	9/30/2019	6/30/2022
Lund, Traci	NDLA Appointee (Ex-Officio)	(701) 965-6305	Divide	10/6/2019	10/5/2022
Matthews, Jason	Citizen at Large - Bismarck	(701) 471-0311	Burleigh	1/15/2016	6/30/2023
Nagle, Angie	School Libraries		McLean	7/1/2019	6/30/2022
Oltz, Tammy	Special Libraries - Grand Forks	(701) 777-2653	Grand Forks	7/1/2018	6/30/2021
Pryer, Jessica	Private Higher Education	(701) 349-5430	Dickey	7/1/2020	6/30/2023
Sharp, Susie	Public Libraries - Eddy	(701) 947-5540		9/13/2013	6/30/2021
Soucic, Mary	Ex-Officio	(701) 328-4654	Burleigh		Open

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my testimony. I would stand for any questions, and, if none, request a Do Pass on SB 2157.