

To: Legislative Judiciary Committee Members -Rep. Lawrence Klemin, Rep. Karen Karls, Rep. Landon Bahl, Rep. Cole Christensen, Rep. Claire Cory, Rep. Donna Henderson, Rep. SuAnn Olson, Rep. Nico Rios, Rep. Shannon Roers Jones, Rep. Bernie Satrom, Rep. Mary Schneider, Rep. Lori VanWinkle, Rep. Steve Vetter

Re: HB 1205

Dear Committee Members.

I am writing to urge you to recommend a DO NOT PASS for this bill. This bill basically allows censorship, infringes on an individual's freedom to read, and criminalizes the work of library employees,

Everyone is ensured the freedom to read. The First Amendment of the US Constitution protects individuals from government attempts to suppress ideas and information. Americans should not have to sacrifice their heritage of a free press in order to be protected against what others think may be bad for them.

Public Libraries provide access to information for all citizens. The library ensures that everyone has the freedom to read what they want. The great thing about the public library is that if an individual does not agree with something, they have the right not to check it out. Furthermore, all material in the library have been reviewed by librarians so that only highly rated books reach the shelves of the library. Americans of all ages should make their own decisions about what they read. In the case of minors, parents should make those decisions.

In the words of Robert A. Heinlein, Science Fiction Author, "When any government or church for that matter, undertakes to say to its subjects, this you may not read; this you may not see; this you are forbidden to know, the end result is tyranny and oppression no matter how holy the motive."

Again, I urge a DO NOT PASS on this bill.

Sincerely,

Paulette Nelson