

To whom it may concern,

Hello, my name is Isabella Anderson, I am a junior in high school, I live in Burlington North Dakota, and I am an avid reader. I am writing to you to oppose House Bill 1205. To get straight to the point, I believe that the passage of this bill would be very harmful to everyone in the state of North Dakota, especially for the young people and high school aged people. People go to the library for free, public information that they may not have access to anywhere else, restricting this public information in any sense is very harmful to the developing young minds that will someday be in charge of this great nation. To get more into specifics, this bill is very vague. For example, in regards to #12, the definition of gender identity is “a person's innate sense of their gender” so theoretically you could ban any book with a person who was born a man, who at any point in the book claims that they identify as a man. As for numbers 3, 7, 8, 9, and 10, this could include any book with any mention of sex, as well as educational books. There are many parents who refuse to teach their kids about sex, and often school doesn't teach it well enough, so without these books, children turn to the internet. Would you rather your children learn about sex from an informational/medical book, or from a site like PornHub? Overall, this bill is restricting children's access to learning, in doing so, also restricting their minds, development, and their future. There are absolutely no upsides to this bill other than appeasing a few overly protective adults.