

Mr. or Madam Chairman, and members of the committee, my name is Rozell Unruh from Dickinson. I wish I could be there in person to support HB1205 but due to the weather I am not able to attend. This bill is not about censorship it is about protecting our children from inappropriate material that their minds can not process, comprehend, or understand. This bill will help protect our children from the grooming that the books are promoting.

As far as people saying this bill is against free speech, it is not.

According to Cornell Law School:

Freedom of speech is the right to speak, write and share ideas and opinions without facing punishment from the government. The First Amendment protects this right by prohibiting Congress from making laws that would curtail freedom of speech.

Even though freedom of speech is protected from infringement by the government, the government is still free to restrict speech in certain circumstances. One of these circumstances is:

* Obscenity - Alliance for Community Media v. FCC, the Supreme Court found that obscenity and child pornography have no right to protection from the First Amendment, and as such, the government has the ability to ban this media altogether.

The book "Let's Talk About It" has such obscenity. During the Dickinson Public Library Board meeting in November that was televised, blown up pictures from this book were held up in front of the camera and the station would not air the pictures due to the obscenity and pornographic nature of these pictures.

It is our duty to protect all children under the age of 18 as much as we possibly can. Which this bill will do. Please vote due pass.

Thank you,
Rozell Unruh