

March 8, 2025

Dear Chairperson and members of the Senate Education Committee,

My name is Anita Tulp, and I am the Director of the Valley City Barnes County Public Library. I am writing to you in support of HB 1420.

State Aid for Public Libraries helps us serve our community better by providing funds that can be used to implement programs and services, or to increase our budget for library materials. The state funded Library Vision Grants give us the opportunity to develop new ways to increase our ability to serve our community better. For instance, last year we applied for a Library Vision Grant for Public Spaces. We received a wonderful grant that allowed us to implement new shelving so we could create a conversation area for small groups in the library. The grant also covered the purchase of some of the furniture needed for this area. Our community is very excited about this area and the way it makes our library more welcoming for events like study groups or just visiting with friends. Our Library Board of Directors has decided to complete this area with the furniture we need to make it even more welcoming.

It is my understanding that this bill will clarify who is responsible for approving and allocating these state funded grants. I know that our library appreciates the dedication of the Library Coordinating Council in helping libraries like ours create and implement programs and facilities that meet the needs of our population now and in the future. Please vote "Do Pass" for HB 1420.

Thank you for your time.