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**Senate Bill No. 2360**  
**House Judiciary Committee**  
**Testimony Presented by Seth O'Neill, JD, MSW**  
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**March 14, 2023**

Chairman Klemin and members of the Committee, my name is Seth O'Neill and I am representing CAWS North Dakota in opposition to HB 1533. This bill would put content restrictions on books, pamphlets, or magazines with explicit sexual content available anywhere where minors frequent.

Our programs frequently work with adults and children who experience sexual assault. As part of that work, we provide educational pamphlets on sexual assault among other topics. These pamphlets provide victims with information on what constitutes sexual assault and what services may be offered to support a victim. Under this bill, a staff member of our program could be charged with a Class B Misdemeanor for having these pamphlets available in the lobby of their location. I have included with my testimony an example of one of these pamphlets. I do not believe it is explicit but under this bill it would be banned from being in a public area accessible to minors.

Although this may not be the intent of this bill, this is a grim reality of what could happen if this bill passes. This bill would hinder our efforts to educate victims on sexual assault and ensuring the safety of all North Dakotans. We encourage the committee to give SB 2360 a do not pass recommendation or at the very least provide an exception to domestic violence and sexual assault organizations. I appreciate your time and I am happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you.