

To Whom it may concern

My name is Lesley Allan, I live in Williston ND, and I am writing in opposition to SB2360. Approving this bill will do more damage than good. First, *and most importantly*, it is a violation of first amendment rights. Those rights extend to every citizen, even students.

This bill is far too vague and would require ND library staff and school districts to spend millions of dollars and thousands of hours conducting work that is **already overseen** by locally elected school boards. Don't North Dakota School Boards already have policy and procedures in place to address placement and reconsideration? Last time I checked, this was not the North Dakota conservative standard - letting big government meddle at the local level. This Bill would require every single resource to be vetted for items that "either contain explicit sexual material" or "contain visual depictions or written descriptions of nude or partially denuded human figures." The definition of "sexually explicit" remains vague and thus, impossible to implement faithfully leaving a lot of questions that need answers.

- Should the ND state standards for health education - including sexual reproduction and activities - be abandoned?
- When looking at "sex-based classifications" will all classifications be targeted? So possibly only books about non-bianary people should remain on the shelves.
- The definitions of "nude or partially nude" are unclear, and thus, impossible to implement.
- What about animals? Will books about baby animals be allowed in the science section? There is an elementary book that talks about the chicken and egg cycle, how many days it takes, how the chick forms in the egg...

If these seem silly, please understand, when faced with a large fine and a Class B Misdemeanor, teachers are going to want to know the deep details of what they can continue to have on their shelves. Since the legislature is trying to move this bill into law even though there is overwhelming opposition testimony, YOU should be responsible for answering these questions and not have the ability to pass that responsibility onto someone else.

Do parents have the right to say what **their student** can or can not read? Of course they do! That is part of a parent's job - but they only have responsibility for their child and should not be able to force their beliefs on other families. But what this bill is attempting to do - and not doing it very well - is to make it the job of the government - not individual parents - to say what ALL students can or cannot read. Please do not pass this bill!