

Testimony in opposition to SB 2307 regarding libraries and inappropriate materials.

Dear members of the House of Representatives – I really cannot understand why so much of your precious time is being spent this session on non-issues like this bill. There is NOT a problem in our libraries of inappropriate materials being distributed to our youth.

Furthermore, it is a PARENT's responsibility to monitor what their children are checking out from a library, not a librarian's! Nonetheless, I know that if a child were to attempt to check out something clearly intended for adults only, the librarian would not permit it. Have you ever tried to cross a librarian in a library? I would not recommend it!

My mother-in-law worked as a librarian for her long and outstanding career. EVERY item purchased for the library was carefully vetted, reviews were read, award-winning books prioritized, and materials placed in specific sections.

The idea of prosecuting librarians based on an unclear definition of "inappropriate" makes my blood boil. What might be inappropriate to you, may not be so to me. For example, consider many passages in the Old Testament of the Bible. Woo-hoo, quite saucy, some of those Psalms.

Vote no on this legislation. Instead, take the time needed to consider legislation that advances the interests of our state, improves infrastructure (how about building more libraries!?), and assures the well-being of every North Dakotan.

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*P.S. I notice that a portion of the testimony supporting this legislation is from out of state. Rather fishy, really.*