

Dear Honorable Judiciary Committee Members:

I stand in opposition to SB 2307. Our public libraries are a safe place for all to have the opportunity to learn and share information on a high level and are controlled by board members from their communities. To restrict freedom of speech and restrict the ability to search for knowledge is a dangerous affront to our democracy. If I choose to read or not read a book, magazine, newspaper or any other form of information, it is my right and choice. I decide what I watch on television, movies, and social media. Restricting material that one may find offensive introduces the loss of our freedom. Regulating what one individual may seem as unethical or immoral can lead to regulating what religion, social groups, political organizations, and other beliefs may be allowed to be connected to. Also, the fiscal note to this bill is \$1,110,837 for the first biennium and \$926,956 every biennium thereafter. I would come to believe that the legislature, would be fiscally responsible to defeat this bill and allow local library boards to decide the importance of the material that they will allow in their libraries as has been done in the past. Trust your local communities to make the decision and save the state the dollars to be used in something more productive as school lunches or funding Prairie Public services.

Thank you for your consideration.