

Samantha K. Harrison

Regarding SB 2307

March 16th, 2025

Dear Chairman Klemin & Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for public libraries and librarians in North Dakota, and I urge you to recommend a Do Not Pass and a No vote on Senate Bill 2307.

I have always loved my local libraries, no matter where I have lived, since I was a very small child. My local library in my hometown fostered my love of reading and helped me to grow as a conscientious adult who loves her community.

This bill greatly concerns me, not only by how it could impact access to books and materials, but also for the unnecessary risk that it poses to librarians. Local libraries are well-established community spaces where everyone, regardless of how much money they make, what kind of job they have, or what kind of house they live in, can go and access free services and information. This bill would undermine that and be an extreme example of "big government" and government overreach in general.

This bill is also unnecessary. Every ND library already has a review process for library materials, and this bill would get law enforcement involved in local book challenges. State government should not be deciding what families and communities read. Parents can supervise their own kids. If my parents wanted to know what I was reading as a kid, they asked me. Trust parents today to do the same and not at the expense of the livelihood of librarians, or the time and effort of law enforcement.

I am asking that the Committee recommend a Do Not Pass vote and a No vote on SB 2307.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Samantha K. Harrison  
Constituent - District 34