

Vote Do NOT Pass - SB 2307

Dear North Dakota House Judiciary Committee Chairman Klemin and members of the Committee,

My name is Connie Hoffman of Fargo, ND, and lifelong resident of North Dakota. I write in opposition to Senate Bill 2307 which would require librarians to remove ill-defined “explicit sexual” materials from our libraries so they are not accessible to minors.

Do NOT Pass SB 2307 for the following reasons:

1. Libraries in our schools and communities have already complied with HB 1205 passed in 2023.
2. Librarians already follow professional library standards in the selection of age appropriate library materials and appropriate placement within the library setting.
3. Libraries have policies in place if a parent or patron requests a book or material be removed from the library collection.
4. Implementation will likely be costly to taxpayers. In some cases library directors have stated that they would have to close their local libraries due to the cost of remodeling to accommodate the specifics of this law.
5. Withholding school funding, if a potential violation is found, is an extreme measure, given that a reported violation could be due to the lack of clarity in the bill or a group trying to intentionally disrupt library services.
6. An additional cost of approximately \$2,000,000 to upgrade existing ODIN software to restrict electronic materials available to K-12 students if this bill is passed. This implement would have the effect of also restricting some materials available to non K-12 individuals.

I support and trust our librarians in both school and public libraries to monitor library collections and provide access following standardized library policies and established procedures. Librarians are professionals serving students and the public, following longstanding professional library standards.

Vote Do Not Pass on SB 2307.

Connie Hoffman
Fargo, ND 58104