

March 16, 2025

There are 3 points I would like to make regarding my opposition to 2307:

1) Currently all public libraries are using the Supreme Court “Miller Ruling” plus last year’s North Dakota ruling on the definition of “sexually explicit” material to assure that such material is not in the library’s book collection.

2) All public libraries have a policy which provides for the reconsideration of any book in the library’s collection. Any library patron can request through this policy to have a book removed because it contains sexually explicit material or request that a book be shelved in another section of the library based on reading level or age appropriateness. This request is heard and responded to by the library Trustees, the governing body of the library which is made up of community members.

2307 bypasses the local community process of being responsive to their community members and culture.

3) Living in rural North Dakota, we are so thankful for our small town library. The school library is only available to students during school hours. Our local library is available to all, especially to preschool children, homeschool families and adults. Requiring a ‘gated’ section for adult materials will be a physical impossibility for our small library because of the physical layout of the library, the necessity of a front staff to verify age of any patron wanting to access the adult section, and the inconvenience to the library patron to go to the front desk for permission to access the adult section.

Please vote “no” regarding 2307 on the grounds that there are already processes in place to manage ‘sexually explicit’ materials in our public libraries and the burden that will be imposed on libraries to ‘gate’ the adult section.

Thank you for talking the time to read this.

Lisa Anderson