

Testimony Against Senate Bill 2307

Kesli LeBaron

North Dakota House Committee Hearing

March 18, 2025

Good morning to all of you.

My name is Kesli LeBaron, and I am a sixth-grade student in North Dakota. Thank you for giving me the chance to speak today.

I love reading because books help me learn, grow, and understand the world around me. That's why I'm asking you to please vote NO on Senate Bill 2307.

I understand that some books deal with difficult topics, but I believe that removing them from schools and libraries will do more harm than good. For some students, reading a certain book might be the first time they feel understood. I worry that if this bill passes, kids will lose access to stories that could make a big difference in their lives.

I also believe that parents, teachers, and librarians should be the ones guiding kids in what they read and not the government. Librarians work hard to choose books that reflect all kinds of readers, and they care deeply about students and families. Instead of banning books, I hope we can trust families and educators to help kids choose books that are right for them.

I know I am young, but I also know that the choices made here affect me, my classmates, and future students. I hope you will consider how important books are for all kids in North Dakota and vote NO on Senate Bill 2307.

Thank you for your time and for listening to me.