

SB 2307

House Judiciary Committee

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Good morning, Chairperson Klemin and members of the House Judiciary Committee. My name is Corey Quirk, Deputy CIO for Core Technology Services (CTS), within the North Dakota University System, I also have online with us today Mr. Jason Bedsaul, Director of ODIN, and we are here to provide neutral testimony on Bill 2307 and request \$1.1 million general fund appropriation be added to the bill.

NDUS CTS's ODIN division supports libraries of all types - academic, public, school, and special - across North Dakota with authentication, licensing, and access services to shared electronic databases and online resources. These resources are popularly used in classrooms and libraries across the state, generating over 1 million searches monthly. While we do not take a stance for or against the bill, we do have some concerns related to Section 6 on SB2307 and the fiscal and logistical burdens it places on our organization and impacted member libraries.

While a lot of the testimony has focused on physical materials and placing things in cabinets or behind locked areas, ODIN provides electronic access to materials and simply do not have the same type of solution available.

ODIN is requesting fiscal support to improve our systems to help libraries with whatever requests and outcomes they are asked to comply with. While an upgrade in systems would not address all our concerns, it would address the primary aims of this bill to filter and block access to materials on an expanded definition of obscenity from K-12 patrons. Currently, the ODIN systems only authorize access by library, not by the individual. To comply with SB2307 and still allow selective, legal access to electronic resources, we would have to update the authentication systems and methods we currently use to identify patrons individually rather than by location.

The updated system would allow for NDUS and ODIN to continue to provide broad access and support to all libraries, while also complying with the expanded content filtering and access requirements of SB2307.

Fiscal Request – 2025 (FY26-FY27)

Implementation + 2 year Ongoing	\$1,110,837.00
Ongoing per Biennium	\$882,816.00

In conclusion, while we remain neutral on the merits of Bill 2307, it is crucial to consider the fiscal implications outlined here today. I urge the committee to carefully evaluate these financial impacts as part of your deliberations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB2307. Director Bedsaul and I are available to answer any questions you may have.

We have a detailed quote from a vendor on the costs associated with updating our current systems to still comply with section 6 of SB2307 and continue to provide access to non-K-12 patrons.

Here's a summary table of those costs:

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Library Type	Year One Total Cost + One Time Implementation	Year Two	Year Three
Academic	\$125,480	\$72,660	\$76,293
School	\$323,768	\$181,949	\$191,047
Public	\$230,948	\$176,033	\$184,834
Totals	\$680,195	\$430,642	\$452,174