

Dear Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

### **Vote NO on SB 2307**

Our local library already follows established policies, and North Dakota has laws to prevent obscenity. Decisions about library materials should remain with local governments and library boards—not be dictated by unnecessary legislation.

SB 2307 imposes excessive restrictions and puts librarians at risk of criminal or financial penalties simply for doing their jobs. Our small, one-room county library, shared with an elementary school, is carefully organized by age, and our librarian already manages an immense workload to maximize resources. Library policies are in place to protect patrons and are available both in person and online.

As a parent, I have guided my child—a once-struggling reader—through her literary journey. Now in 6th grade, she has made great progress and reads at her grade level. When she chose a book with mature themes, we discussed its content, and I allowed her to read it. Parents should have the right to make these decisions, rather than having books removed due to broad restrictions.

Banning books, particularly those with LGBTQ+ themes, limits students' ability to explore diverse perspectives. Instead of restricting access, we should foster open dialogue and acknowledge the realities children encounter daily through media, peers, and personal experiences.

High school libraries, a crucial resource for students, face significant risk under SB 2307. Libraries have long followed publisher guidelines and district policies, yet this bill creates unnecessary barriers that could force them to close. Dedicated librarians should not be punished for their commitment to education and access to knowledge.

If this bill passes, our community could lose an essential resource. **Please stand with us and oppose SB 2307.**

Thank you,

Traci Lund