

Greetings Mr./Madam Chair, members of the Committee, I'm Kathrin Volochenko

I request that this committee bring **Senate Bill 2307** to the floor with a “**Do Not Pass**” recommendation.

This bill is library censorship and nothing more than a slap in the face of professional librarians, teachers and parents alike. It is preventing people access to the classics and books that teach about human trafficking, illicit rape, mental, physical abuse and torture, theft, murder. I understand that this bill is about “*protecting minors from explicit sexual material*” However, how many books are there where the plot is murder? Hundreds, if not thousands, of detective stories that challenge the mind in regard to interesting plots and problem solving. Are those banned? Certainly not. Classics by Arthur Conan Doyle (Creator of Sherlock Holmes) and Agatha Christie murder mysteries represent some of the best in storytelling and yet these are stories about people killing other people.

In other words, a high school student under the age of 18 cannot study ancient and renaissance art in all its splendor? Some examples include, though not limited to; Michelangelo's statue of “David” or “The Creation of Adam” by the same. I could name so many more, however I hope that you now understand my point.

Librarians have the good sense to not allow a young person or “minor” to check out a book or any material that is not “age appropriate”.

Librarians are highly trained professionals that hold various degrees in **Library Science**. My question to any one of the legislators that have sponsored this horrendous bill, please show us your **Library Science** degrees and **proof** that you have the knowledge and right to dictate what we, the public can read, or even view in a **public library** setting. A typical public library that is funded in part by an average of only 10% state tax dollars with the balance provided by county and city tax dollars along with some private donations. With such a small influence on a typical library's budget, once again I ask, what gives you the right to dictate what we, the public, can read, or even view in a **public library** setting.

A suggestion would be to have a separate area that can be monitored by a trained librarian's assistant that can check the IDs of anyone to verify the eligibility based on the age of any person that wishes to enter such an area.

In closing, how does beautiful art and truthful literature adversely affect society?

Thank you for your time and attention.