

Chairman Klemin and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,  
I write today in adamant opposition to SB 2307.

Professional Librarians are educated and trained to maintain library books in a manner that respects citizens and their right to freedom of expression. Do not make it their job to censor what children and/or students read. Clearly parents should be setting their own expectations and boundaries for their own children not the ND government.

There is educational value to an exposure to a wide range of controversial and challenging range of ideas. This helps young people develop critical thinking skills to analyze and question rather than take things at face value. A diverse selection of books teaches people about the very diversity of the human experience, eliminates stereotypes, promotes empathy and understanding from those different from us. Parents who actually take an active role in their children's learning should not have their right to make informed choices to guide their children taken away. Historically censorship like this is associated with oppressive regimes and movements. This bill is a slippery slope to broader censorship.

Let ND librarians do their job without the scare tactics of radicals and blatant censorship. This bill will only bring negative consequences, undermines fundamental rights, limits educational opportunities and stifles rich diversity of thought that is essential for an informed, educated and well read society.

Please vote NO on SB 2307.

Thank you,  
Michele Grenier  
Rolette, ND