



**SB 2307 Testimony
to the House Judiciary Committee
March 18, 2025**

Chairman Klemin and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

My name is Stella Cantu, and I am writing on behalf of the North Dakota Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

NASW-ND opposes SB 2307 for the following reasons:

- **SB 2307 is an unnecessary bill** since the ND Century Code already provides for “Obscenity Control,” especially in relation to minors, through Section 12.1-27.1 of the Code. In addition, it would cost the state an estimated \$2 million. Those funds could be allocated to other underfunded resources, such as education or transportation, to benefit the community.
- **SB 2307 restricts local and school libraries.** Both entities have trained and educated professionals who can understand and adhere to the ND Century Code and discern the difference between obscenity/pornography and genuinely appropriate materials. The policies already established and their professional judgment should be used to select appropriate material for the communities they serve.
- **SB 2307 places undue burdens on schools, libraries, legislative management, and the local state’s attorney** through requirements addressed in the bill, such as, but not limited to, developing new policies to adhere to SB 2307, forming a “diverse decision-making committee,” updating physical/online databases, and potential prosecution. Public libraries and schools are already understaffed and underfunded; this bill creates one more layer of stress on the professionals who work with our local communities.

NASW-ND believes that the most successful and effective way to support student well-being is to trust public librarians, school librarians, and teachers to decide what is most appropriate for children and youth and who can then work, as necessary, with community members to maximize the choice of resources available to all library patrons.

Thank you for your review of our testimony, and we encourage the committee to give SB 2307 a **Do Not Pass** recommendation.

Thank you,
Stella Cantu
NASW - North Dakota Chapter