

# House Judiciary Committee

## Senate Bill 2307

Andrew Alexis Varvel

Written Testimony

March 18, 2025

Chairman Klemin & Members of the  
House Judiciary Committee:

My name is Andrew Alexis Varvel. I live in Bismarck, District 47.

I am also a member of the local Friends of the Library.

I oppose Senate Bill 2307, and so should you.

During the Senate Judiciary Committee's hearing on Senate Bill 2307, a clinical therapist from Pennsylvania who shall not be named, talked about sex offenders accessing pornography on library computers.

On February 9, 2025, I performed a diagnostic test for four well known pornographic sites on a computer at the Bismarck public library.

None of these pornographic sites could be accessed.

On March 15, 2025, I performed an expanded diagnostic test consisting of eight well known pornographic sites on a computer at the Morton Mandan Public Library. None of these pornographic sites could be accessed. I performed the same test at the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library. It yielded the same result – no access.

These libraries already have safeguards against online pornography.

I do not know what library computers in Pennsylvania allow, but it is offensive to smear local libraries that have been doing their jobs well.

Most librarians are understandably focused on Section 7, which is the punishment phase of this bill. Yet, I am focused on Section 3, which appears to be its motivation – and a deliberate insult aimed at libraries.

Please look at page 2, lines 16-19, of the Second Engrossment.

Senate Bill 2307 would put public libraries into the same category as public roadways and public walkways. In the same category as the gutter. Under Senate Bill 2307, public libraries would no longer be in the same category as colleges, universities, museums, and art galleries.

It hardly seems to matter to the architects of this bill that if you go to the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library, you will find one painting after another on the wall. The difference between this public library and an art gallery – public or private – is that you can borrow these works of art on your library card and bring them home.

I have read the Code of Conduct Policy and the Grounds Policy of the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library.

It prohibits disruptive behavior. No fighting. No harassment. No loud noises. No sleeping. No camping. Using the restroom to take a bath is prohibited. And unlike roadways and walkways, bicycles and scooters are prohibited within the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library.

Unauthorized sales and solicitation at the library is prohibited anywhere on library property. Criminal activity is prohibited.

If sex traffickers or pedophiles are targeting children at a library, please inform the librarians about it immediately. Librarians are human beings. Librarians care about the well being of their patrons. Librarians want to keep libraries safe. Librarians don't want children to get hurt.

Our public libraries are something to be proud of, something where we can take civic pride in what our libraries have become, and now Senate Bill 2307 proposes to officially state in our Century Code that our public libraries are not essentially different from the gutter.

Librarians take professional pride in what they do. The librarians I have dealt with tend to be, if anything, as straitlaced as their stereotype. To accuse them of being perverted groomers – that is downright hurtful.

And please note that according to page 2, lines 11-15, any replica or picture of Michelangelo's statue of David would be banned at any public library. North Dakota would become world famous for comstockery.

One fellow citizen has written,

*“It is important to note that the book **Let's Talk About It** is not the only obscene, pornographic book out there in the public library and school system.”*

Let's talk about the *Holy Bible*.

The *Holy Bible* contains a description of incest (Genesis 19:30-38), instructions on how to rape a girl (Deuteronomy 21:10-14), promotion of temple prostitution as holiness to God (Isaiah 23:17-18), a homosexual covenant between David and Jonathan (1 Samuel 18:1-4), and a prophet's phallic envy toward donkey dongs (Ezekiel 23:20).

The *Holy Bible* also includes an entire book called *The Song of Songs*.

Taken as a whole, *The Song of Songs* appeals to the prurient interest of minors. *And that is the point.* It promotes sexual desire – wholesome heteronormative monogamous desire – especially among adolescents.

*The Song of Songs* says the following:

*“His left arm pillows my head, his right arm is around me.”*

*Song of Songs 2:6 & 8:3, Revised English Bible*

Hawaiians call this “the missionary position.”

In verse 2:3, the woman says,

*“... his fruit is sweet to my taste.”*

In verse 7:2, between descriptions of a woman's body progressing upward, and between her thighs and her belly, the man says,

*“Your navel is a rounded goblet that will never lack spiced wine.”*

Verses 4:15-16 say the following:

*“The fountain in my garden is a spring of running water  
flowing down from Lebanon.*

*Awake, north wind, and come, south wind!  
Blow upon my garden to spread its spices abroad,  
that my beloved may come to his garden  
and enjoy the choice fruit.”*

If you don't want minors to learn about sex, please make sure that minors never get an opportunity to read the *Holy Bible*.

If you don't like a book, don't read it. Libraries discard unread books.

If you don't like sex trafficking, then please encourage the Legislature to study how to combat sex trafficking effectively. Our policies over the past generation don't seem to have worked so far. And I strongly want the Legislature to craft a serious crackdown against sex trafficking.

And – don't scapegoat librarians.

I think that *Jesus Christ* has something to say about book censors.

***Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye, with never a thought for the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Let me take the speck out of your eye," when all the time there is a plank in your own? You hypocrite! First take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's.***

*(Matthew 7:3-5, Revised English Bible)*

Please keep *Senate Bill 2307* far away from our Century Code.

Please give *Senate Bill 2307* a **DO NOT PASS** recommendation.

Thank you. I am open for questions from the committee.