

Dear Senator Paulson,

I am writing to express my **strong opposition to SB 2307** and urge you to vote **DO NOT PASS**. As a lifelong supporter of our public library system, I have seen firsthand the invaluable role libraries play in fostering a love of reading, learning, and intellectual freedom. I regularly bring my son (almost 10) to our local library, and he, too, has developed a deep appreciation for the library's resources, books, and the welcoming space it provides for exploration and growth.

SB 2307, however, presents a serious threat to our First Amendment rights. It undermines the very principles that make libraries a cornerstone of our democracy: the free and open exchange of ideas. Libraries provide access to diverse perspectives and materials that empower individuals to make informed decisions, develop critical thinking skills, and engage with the world around them. **A free society does not criminalize our librarians.**

This bill has the potential to censor and restrict access to certain books and materials, which could stifle free expression and limit educational opportunities for my son and others. The chilling effect of such legislation could create a precedent that encourages censorship, making it harder for communities to rely on libraries for unbiased, unrestricted access to knowledge. **The language of this bill essentially makes it impossible for children and minors to be in a library.**

Libraries are places where all ideas can be explored without fear of government interference, and I believe they should remain safe spaces for people of all ages, backgrounds, and beliefs. The freedom to read and learn without censorship is a right that should be protected at all costs.

I respectfully urge you to consider the profound impact this bill could have on our children, our communities, and our fundamental rights. I ask that you oppose SB 2307 and stand up for the values that make our society stronger, more informed, and more united.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Erin M. Price, Bismarck, D35