VOTE NO ON SB2037

Criminalizing librarians? Hindering access to online, digital resources? Forcing libraries to bend to the will of a few ill-informed people? Stifling free speech? Is this what North Dakota wants to be known for? Is this what will help us North Dakotans who are looking for economic relief, lower taxes, and freedom to do what's best for us and our families? The answer is a resounding NO.

SB2037 is another attempt to make fear and ignorance legal. There are NO sexually explicit materials in children's sections of public libraries. There are NO librarians who are willfully and gleefully putting any adult material into children's hands. To believe this is patently absurd. Those who do believe this fallacy tells me one thing: hey haven't stepped foot into a public library.

I love my local library. It is a place of cheer, knowledge, welcome, and literacy. Why are elected officials so intent on restricting learning and literacy? What good comes from this?

There are REAL problems us North Dakotans face. I don't want to live in a state where we arrest librarians for simply doing their jobs but let school children go hungry. Please focus your attention on issues that will actually HELP the people who elected you: access to healthcare, child poverty, unmet mental health needs, opioid and fentanyl abuse. I urge you to do the sane, logical thing and vote NO and to speak up and put an end to these nanny-state bills that are a waste of taxpayer money.

Melinda Obach

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