

I am testifying in OPPOSITION of SB 2307.

Libraries, particularly those in small towns, are struggling to survive. Space is limited (most are in a single room) and professional librarians are in short supply. Now, the state wants to make their jobs more difficult by placing random qualifications on the material they MAY possess, costing the taxpayers additional dollars.

Most legislators have a cell phone. Most legislators have internet service and computers. I would bet at least one of these devices is open on your desk now. A vast majority of minors have access to these devices. Most of them OWN their own cell phones. And somehow, legislators have gotten the idea that porn and obscene materials are coming from the library?

Libraries have systems in place to challenge material they consider inappropriate. I asked Sheila Krueger, the librarian in Casselton, how many challenges she had gotten in her 13 years. Two. Just two. And the people initiating the challenge withdrew their challenge when asked to fill out paperwork. The topics? One was a book on North Dakota history—the other a work of “Christian fiction.”

Our children are NOT being corrupted by the library.

This bill would also cost the libraries their use of the Libby app, which allows remote users (like myself) to access, read and gather information without having to drive into the “big city” library.

Please use your legislative time and power on things that matter —property taxes, finding workers for jobs that are empty and promoting our great state. The legislature is already attracting national attention with garbage legislation. LET THE PARENTS and FAMILIES do their jobs and not the legislature. If Republicans

are truly interested in small government, why are they trying to legislate morality?

You can look that up on your phone, by the way.

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