## SB 2307 Testimony Senate Judiciary Committee February 10, 2025

Chair Larson and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

My name is Amy Phillips. I am a North Dakota resident, and I am writing to ask you to please give SB 2307 a **Do Not Pass** recommendation.

Public libraries and school libraries have always been important to me. I enjoyed spending time in and selecting books from school libraries in my childhood and youth. I worked in my town's public library as a high school student to make some pocket money. In later years, working at university libraries was one way of supporting myself through graduate school. Today, I continue to utilize public libraries by borrowing books, attending public meetings and educational events, and taking grandchildren to select their own reading materials.

In my many years of exposure to libraries, it has never once dawned on me to mistrust the professionals who worked in the libraries by assuming that they select inappropriate "explicit sexual materials" that might harm library patrons. I have never heard a patron complain about library materials, and I have seen library staff treated *only* as knowledgeable, respectful, and responsive to the legitimate and serious interests of the diversity of people using the library.

SB 2307 is a flagrant and disrespectful disregard for the education, training, experience, and knowledge of the professionals who work in our public and school libraries and who have nothing but the best interests of their constituents in mind.

Please let libraries, and the boards and professional staff responsible for them, do their job, and stop legislative interference in the superb and trust-worthy work of our libraries by giving SB 2307 a Do Not Pass recommendation.