

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB 2307 as I believe it is a clear effort at government censorship.

The ambiguity of this bill could result in books being removed from libraries that include such texts as the Christian Bible. But even without such ambiguity, it is the responsibility of parents to dictate to their children what they can and cannot read. Additionally, I do not believe the majority of content that would be affected by this bill is likely to be found in the children's section of the library to begin with. While a child might wander into the adult section, that is again on the parent to manage as children are not meant to be left unattended in public spaces. As part of a large family myself, I am well aware of the struggles some parents face with wrangling their children, however this does not shift the responsibility to libraries to provide that care.

Furthermore, any parent who does not check what books their child is checking out and reading has no room to complain about what books their child has found at the library. Is such a thing not common knowledge anymore? I certainly don't think I checked out any books without my mothers knowledge and approval until my teen years, at which point I was allowed more leeway in my selection. If a parent still cannot trust their child into their teen years then that is a matter of their parenting, not the books available.

I must insist that this bill be thrown out. No bill of it's kind should ever be entertained, and as we have seen in other states that have tried it, this ambiguous wording opens the enforcement of the bill up to ridicule. Don't add our state to the list of states where people are submitting requests to have the bible banned as a manner of protesting these censorship bills.

Regards,

Connor O'Keefe