

Chairman Koppelman and members of the Judiciary Committee, for the record, I am Jackson Harper, a resident of Grand Forks. Today I am writing to urge a **Do Not Pass** recommendation for SB 2307.

Firstly, I am concerned that the bill allows for too much individual discretion regarding what is “obscene”. For instance, in the state of Florida, the benign picture book *Arthur’s Birthday* [was challenged](#) because of a mention of the party game spin the bottle.

Likewise, classics like *Brave New World* occasionally end up challenged because of mentions of drug abuse and orgies, even though Aldous Huxley depicts these as horrors of a dystopian future that has hidden true intimacy and virtuous suffering from its citizenry. Indeed, reading *Brave New World* as a high school senior made me more skeptical of the libertinism critics claim it promotes!

Second, I am concerned that SB 2307’s demand that allegedly sexually explicit materials be made *completely* inaccessible to minors will negatively impact rural libraries and similar facilities with limited space and resources. I heard of a [library in Idaho](#) that had to limit its services to adults only in order to comply with a similar law that mandated that challenged titles be relocated to a restricted section. The library in question did not have a space for more than one section, requiring drastic action. While larger libraries may be able to reorganize themselves to comply with SB 2307, I fret that other institution will not have such capacity.

Third, the bill seems unnecessary. HB 1205 from the previous legislative session pushed libraries to review their collection development policies, most of which already included the Miller Test to follow legal precedent for the treatment of obscene materials. What would attaching punishments for noncompliance—a phenomenon which quite likely does not exist in North Dakota libraries—further accomplish?

I thank you all for taking the time to read this testimony, and I hope it persuades you to render a **Do Not Pass** recommendation for SB 2307.