

Chairwoman Larson and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

My name is Jade Praus and I am testifying in opposition to SB 2307.

This bill is unnecessary for so many reasons, but I will list a few.

1. This is a huge government overstep to control the materials within a library.
2. Parents should have the right to choose materials for their children. The government should not.
3. Libraries have collections for children and teens that have appropriate materials for those ages. What is appropriate for a 14-year-old is not appropriate to a 4-year-old, but there should still be books for that 14-year-old. Libraries serve everyone.
4. Libraries already have procedures in place for materials people think should be removed and this bill circumvents that.
5. This bill would classify books on potty training and puberty as something to be made inaccessible and that would only prove to be detrimental.

This bill would also cause some issues and prove to be costly to libraries and tax payers. If this would pass, we may see libraries having to do costly renovations to spaces and that is only if there is money for those renovations. In libraries where renovations are not possible, they will be for people ages 18+ and that is heartbreaking. I have loved the library since I was a child and it was my favorite place to visit, and still is, but to think children may not be allowed in is so sad.

I urge you to vote Do Not Pass on SB 2307.

Jade Praus

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