

To: Senate Committee Members –

Re: SB 2123

Dear Committee Members.

I am writing to urge you to recommend a DO NOT PASS for this bill. This bill basically allows censorship, infringes on booksellers and other organizations that has books available to the public. Do you realize that this would include library friends groups that sell reused books to the public to raise money for their organizations?

Everyone is ensured the freedom to read and purchase books from booksellers or other sources. The First Amendment of the US Constitution protects individuals from government attempts to suppress ideas and information. Americans should not have to sacrifice their heritage of a free press in order to be protected against what others think may be bad for them.

I do not think it is up to the ND Senate to dictate what a book store or other organizations can sell or have on display. This law would prohibit book sellers from displaying such books as Twilight, 50 Shades of Grey, Harlequin books and even the Bible.

In the words of Robert A. Heinlein, Science Fiction Author, “When any government or church for that matter, undertakes to say to its subjects, this you may not read; this you may not see; this you are forbidden to know, the end result is tyranny and oppression no matter how holy the motive.”

Again, I urge a DO NOT PASS on this bill.

Sincerely,

Paulette Nelson