

January 23, 2023

Chairperson Larson and Committee Members,

I strongly urge a Do NOT Pass on SB 2123. With the exception of changing “he” to “the person,” the amendments presented in SB 2123 violate the First Amendment of the US Constitution. Freedom of speech includes plays, music, dance, film, literature, poetry, and the visual arts. SB 2123 is overly restrictive and would include restricting art textbooks, works of art, popular magazines about women and men’s health, and other common publications in schools, colleges, universities, museums, public libraries, and art galleries. Representations of famous works of art such as Michelangelo’s “David” could fall under the widely defined description of SB 2123. I ask you to uphold the rights of North Dakotan’s by rejecting this attempt at overreaching censorship.

I urge a Do NOT Pass on SB 2123.

Thank you,
Gretchen Deeg