

## Senate Judiciary Committee

Please strongly consider a no vote on SB 2307, the library bill. My mother passed away in 2023 and we went through the difficult task of saying goodbye. She left a mighty legacy but none greater to us, and our community, than her dedication to books, and thus the library. She always said her idea of heaven was to be alone in the library with a sack lunch. Going to the library was nearly as regular to us as Saturday night baths. Getting our own library card was more important than our driver's license.

The last of her possessions to go were her books and the last of her donations, to the library. She served on the board; she hauled books in shopping carts with the rest of the board when they moved from the Carnegie site. She co-authored a book in 1964. When she could no longer read we read to her.

So, yeah, I am seriously book biased. The state has meddled/protected enough in the last session. While I am less worried about requiring libraries to invest in a closet in which to store books than I am about just who will make that selection and why, it is oppressive and contrary to the idea of local control. Worse it is interfering immensely with my choice of reading, truly a first amendment right.

Every single day I listen to digital books through Libby, the library connection as does my husband, our grown children, and their children. We have a streak of dyslexia from my husband's family so it is the best delivery system. That may well be lost to us should this bill pass.

Worse, however, it is so pointless. Young people do not get their ideas of sexuality and the birds and the bees from the library. My friend asked her college age children if they learned about sex through the library, or a book. To a child the reply was, NO, they go to their phones. Unless you all prepared to extend very real protection to our state children through their phones (and not just in school) and by restricting the streaming services their parents have, you are simply depriving the rest of us of normal, perhaps slightly steamy reading material. How can our laws hammer on the supreme rights of parents (even bad ones) and yet not let parents set up the protections. Leave the libraries alone. I can't imagine my mom ever imagining this kind of legislation. Please vote no.

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