

House Judiciary Public Hearing
Tuesday, January 17, 2023, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
327B Room - ND State Capitol

OPPOSING HB 1205: Relating to objectionable materials or performances; and to provide for application.

Please include with the Committee Hearing testimony journal for public record

Chair Representative Lawrence R. Klemin (District 47 | R), Vice Chair Representative Karen Karls (District 35 | R), Committee Member Representatives Landon Bahl (District 17 | R), Cole Christensen (District 24 | R), Claire Cory (District 42 | R), Donna Henderson (District 9B | R), SuAnn Olson (District 8 | R), Nico Rios (District 23 | R), Shannon Roers Jones (District 46 | R), Bernie Satrom (District 12 | R), Mary Schneider (District 21 | D), Lori VanWinkle (District 3 | R), Steve Vetter (District 18 | R), and fellow citizens of North Dakota, Greetings. My name is Kevin R. Tengesdal from here in Bismarck. As a citizen of North Dakota, I resolutely request a unanimous DO NOT PASS on House Bill 1205 as presented, or amended.

HB 1205 endorses censorship, government overreach, and anti First Amendment sentiments. If a public library has in its collection any material with visual depictions of explicit sexual material and someone challenges this in court, the library and/or library director may be charged with a class B misdemeanor, fines, or both. This could include romance novels unless the covers are removed, movies with sex scenes, any books with images on the covers, or inside books relating to sexual identity and gender identity.

In addition, it is no hidden secret that the gathered writings of Scripture are emblazoned with many sexually explicit tales showing:

- 01] Human masturbation (Genesis 38:8-9);
- 02] Deviant sexual intercourse (Ezekiel 16:17);
- 03] Sexual intercourse (abundant passages);
- 04] Direct physical stimulation of genitals (Deuteronomy 25:11-12);
- 05] Sadomasochistic abuse (Ezekiel 23:3);
- 06] Postpubertal human genitals (Deuteronomy 23:1);
- 07] Sexual preferences (all throughout);
- 08] Sexual activity (numerous passages);
- 09] Sexual perversion (all of the above?);
- 10] Sex-based classifications (Ephesians 5:22-24);
- 11] Sexual identity (Genesis 3:16); or
- 12] Gender identity (Genesis 1:27).

In short, the bible includes hardcore pornographic literature questionably appropriate for the age and maturity levels of the individuals who may access the materials. Even though no one gains any sexual morality from reading the Bible, it is inherently used for condemning those who sin differently, as it stirs ones loins.

It is my anticipation that you, and the members of the 2023 North Dakota Legislative Assembly, will choose to stand on the honorable side of history and vote against this dangerous bill.

Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Kevin R. Tengesdal, District 35