



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024	
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: AMBER CRAWFORD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: amapatriot@protonmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 1:12 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

The libraries in Missouri (specifically in St. Charles County) have become autocracies, holding Conservative taxpayer dollars hostage. LOCAL CONTROL. This is a case of Taxation without representation. The citizens of St. Charles (the largest Conservative county in Missouri) are being forced to pay \$21,600,000 a year for:
 *A perverted man dressing in drag to run the children’s section of the Kathryn Linnemann library branch.
 *A security guard (employed by Blackwell) to “protect” said drag employee, costing taxpayer dollars three times what the librarian makes (a complete waste of money).
 *Gay porn; 4 copies of “Bang Like a Porn Star,” a book filled with 73 pages of graphic photographs of males engaging in gay sex, purchased and located in the middle of the library on the second shelf from the floor in the non-fiction section, completely accessible to minors. This book is also digitally accessible to minors WITH A JUVENILE LIBRARY CARD via the Libby app, which is a crime.
 *Obscene “children’s” books in the children’s section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. This includes: graphic illustrations of naked adults engaging in sexual positions and activities, illustrations of NAKED CHILDREN looking at their genitalia with hand mirrors and masturbating, illustrations and instructions on how to insert butt plugs, tips and graphic illustrations on how to masturbate and stimulate orgasm in someone else using your hands, illustrations of a minor giving oral sex to girl wearing a strap on, illustrations on how to use a dental dam for oral sex on a female, tips on how to incorporate bondage and BDSM, information on “golden showers” which is finding sexual arousal through being urinated on, instructions on “rimming” which teaches kids how to stick their fingers and tongue into someone’s anus for pleasure, how to send nudes via “sexting” (encouraging pedophilia and illegal activity) and encourages watching porn of complete strangers having sex sending the message to children that casual sex is “normal.” This is vile. It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse.
 *Copious amounts of LGBTQ materials that is exponentially growing. We have been monitoring the amount of these types of books since June 2023 and we have seen this material more than double in the matter of a few months at the taxpayers expense. Please note that whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The library also denies every single request of any type of pro-Israel material. The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas. These are just a few examples of the abuse of power going on in our libraries on our dime. The CEO, the administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers’ dollars should absolutely be elected. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs; not to funded bureaucrats.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANNE FILDES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: amfembroidery@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 5:32 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I support this bill that library board being held as an elected position and let the people of Saint Charles County decide. I used to take all three of my kids to the library because it was a safe place. However, the culture, society and our library has changed. I stopped taking my youngest to the library, when she was in fourth grade. We haven't been back inside. We reserve online and pick up and get out asap. An example at middendorph library middle school kids just run the place wild and hang out at McClay, they have high school kids doing the same thing.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANTOINETTE DURBIN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mdurbs5a@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 11:02 AM
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I DO want this bill (HB 2498) passed because I DO NOT want my grandchildren or any child to have access to some of the awful books available to them at our public libraries.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC "HONEST ABE" DIENOFF		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 11:31 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Citizens deserve an Election Library Board of Trustee as the District Levies Annual Taxes. Let's get this onto the Governor's Desk. For further information, review the Committee Archived Video on the House Website under "Media."



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BENJAMIN JOSEPH WAGNER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ben.joe.wagner@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 9:32 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The libraries in Missouri (specifically in St. Charles County) have become autocracies, holding Conservative taxpayer dollars hostage. Taxation without representation. The citizens of St. Charles (the largest Conservative county in Missouri) are being forced to pay \$21,600,000 a year for: *A perverted man dressing in drag to run the children’s section of the Kathryn Linnemann library branch.*A security guard (employed by Blackwell) to “protect” said drag employee, costing taxpayer dollars three times what the librarian makes (a complete waste of money). *Gay porn; 4 copies of “Bang Like a Porn Star,” a book filled with 73 pages of graphic photographs of males engaging in gay sex, purchased and located in the middle of the library on the second shelf from the floor in the non-fiction section, completely accessible to minors. This book is also digitally accessible to minors WITH A JUVENILE LIBRARY CARD via the Libby app, which is a crime.*Obscene “children’s” books in the children’s section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. This includes: graphic illustrations of naked adults engaging in sexual positions and activities, illustrations of NAKED CHILDREN looking at their genitalia with hand mirrors and masturbating, illustrations and instructions on how to insert butt plugs, tips and graphic illustrations on how to masturbate and stimulate orgasm in someone else using your hands, illustrations of a minor giving oral sex to girl wearing a strap on, illustrations on how to use a dental dam for oral sex on a female, tips on how to incorporate bondage and BDSM, information on “golden showers” which is finding sexual arousal through being urinated on, instructions on “rimming” which teaches kids how to stick their fingers and tongue into someone’s anus for pleasure, how to send nudes via “sexting” (encouraging pedophilia and illegal activity) and encourages watching porn of complete strangers having sex sending the message to children that casual sex is “normal.” This is vile. It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse.*Copious amounts of LGBTQ materials that is exponentially growing. We have been monitoring the amount of these types of books since June 2023 and we have seen this material more than double in the matter of a few months at the taxpayers expense. Please note that whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The library also denies every single request of any type of pro-Israel material. The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas. These are just a few examples of the abuse of power going on in our libraries on our dime. The CEO, the administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers’ dollars should absolutely be elected. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs; not to funded bureaucrats. Thank you.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BETTY J MEYER-SMITH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: b.meyersmith@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 11:30 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As a Mother and a Grandmother I am opposed to having this explicit material available to our minor children.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BRENDA S. HOPFER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: brenda.hopfer55@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 11:37 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Library board members need to be elected!



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: BYRON KEELIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-402-0655	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: FREEDOM PRINCIPLE MO		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 15095			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63110
EMAIL: freedomprinciplestl@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 8:55 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CARAMIE PETROWSKY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: caramiepetrowsky@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 8:21 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

If our tax payer dollars are funding something, there ought to be a publicly elected board controlling it. If there isn't, then it is taxation without representation. The CEO, the administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers' dollars should absolutely be elected. There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries currently. I have been disappointed to see the woke books seeping into the children's section at our local library. I know tons of families who won't use the library anymore as it doesn't feel like a safe space to them. This is abhorrent! I am in favor of this bill, which will at least bring some of that power back to the people - where it belongs.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CAROL PITZER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: allaboutjesus@centurytel.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 9:14 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

We should be able to elect the CEO of St. Charles County Libraries and the board members that select the material purchased for our libraries. Let the people choose! Right now we have taxation without representation! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs, not to funded bureaucrats.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CAROLYN DOWNEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: cdowney2@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 7:22 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The libraries have been supplying sexual explicit material books that children are able to view, such as "Bang Like a Porn Star". Children and their parents should be able to use the library for educational and fun activities instead of being subjected to pornography. The library is funded by the tax paying citizens and therefore should run by elected officials.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CARRIE FARROW		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: farrowk77@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 10:45 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

There is no Check Balance with library, Director or the library boards and as a taxpayer, I believe a budget of or near \$20 million is outrageous amount of money to not have any voice. Those position should all be voted on, and not appointed. Plus, we should stop increasing the budget every year for the libraries and all the other governmental departments in our state. Illinois has a higher population and has a lower budget and this is proof the fox is in the chicken coop and we need to stop padding pockets & over spending. Let's remember our children's future. Thank you. .



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CEDRIC LEE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: leecedric27@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 1:30 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

We need to have LOCAL CONTROL. The libraries in Missouri have become autocracies, holding taxpayers' dollars hostage. Taxation without representation. This is happening to all the libraries throughout Missouri! *Obscene "children's" books such as "This is Perfectly Normal" in the children's section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. This includes: graphic illustrations of naked adults engaging in sexual positions and activities, illustrations of NAKED CHILDREN looking at their genitalia with hand mirrors and masturbating, illustrations and instructions on how to insert butt plugs, tips and graphic illustrations on how to masturbate and stimulate orgasm in someone else using your hands, illustrations of a minor giving oral sex to girl wearing a strap on, illustrations on how to use a dental dam for oral sex on a female, tips on how to incorporate bondage and BDSM, information on "golden showers" which is finding sexual arousal through being urinated on, instructions on "rimming" which teaches kids how to stick their fingers and tongue into someone's anus for pleasure, how to send nudes via "sexting" (encouraging pedophilia and illegal activity) and encourages watching porn of complete strangers having sex sending the message to children that casual sex is "normal." This is vile. It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse. *Copious amounts of LGBTQ materials that is exponentially growing. We have been monitoring the amount of these types of books since June 2023 and we have seen this material more than double in the matter of a few months at the taxpayers expense. Please note that whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The library also denies every single request of any type of pro-Israel material. The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas. The administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers' dollars should absolutely be ELECTED. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs; not to funded bureaucrats.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DAMON DILLARD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: damon.dillard@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 12:01 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The local library boards in Southeast Missouri are ignoring Missouri Minor Protection Laws and Funding Rules - the boards consistently embrace Marxism and woke ideology - all of these actions harm our children The boards refuse to listen to or follow the wishes of the constituents and ignore us - they are arrogant and uncaring However, these boards are appointed so the people do not have a voice Instituting the requirements for Elected Library Board Members is very much needed I whole heartedly support HB 2498



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DANA S GUEST		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dndguest@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 9:43 PM

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Our public libraries should be governed by a library board elected by the people. We need to be able to vote for those in charge, so that our tax monies are spent in ways that align with public safety and decency. When there are elections, those in charge of the libraries will be accountable to the will of the people, otherwise bureaucrats will continue their monopoly control of our libraries. HB 2498 gives everyone a chance to make their voices heard about how tax money is spent by choosing those in charge of tax monies. Please support this bill. Respectfully, Dana Guest



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DARCI SZYMANSKI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: darci1984@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 9:51 PM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DARLENE BROOMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: darbrooman@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 9:50 PM

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Our unelected CEO and library board are filling our St Charles County library with porn and more than 700 books on transgender. This is criminal.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DARRYL LEVY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: 00abcd1029384756@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 4:05 AM

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I am an educator for 37 years and I would be fired if I did not dress professionally for work or if I lavishly spent my school budget and then complaint it wasn't enough. How can the Saint Charles County library Director not be held accountable for the lavish spending of out taxes or accept and defend I unprofessional employee dress code ? Only 2 men, ST Charles, city Mayor and Saint Charles County Executor are the only two with power over the library Director. This is extremely unbalanced, and should have been changed years ago. The library Director has \$21 million budget and does not answer to the public ? The style of dictatorship coupled with a \$21 million budget provides a platform of mismanagement and corruption, which is our community has been encountering. Our library, Director needs more oversight, accountability by the public, and this office should be an elected position. The budget should be decreased along with much of our state budget, and we need to put more power back into the hands of the people, and create these high-power positions to be held to more accountability and transparency. That should be held accountable further unprofessionalism,, questionable, business practices, and spending. If this was in the business world, they would be fired. No one person should have this type of power with very little oversight, and little to no consequences.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DAVID WAYNE GUEST		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dguest357@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 9:44 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

My name is Dave Guest, retired software engineer and resident over 20 years of St Charles county, recently of Lincoln County. I appreciate the opportunity to speak to the committee today in favor of HB 2498. As the father of two homeschooled daughters, we used the public library system extensively in our schooling. This provided considerably more resources than we could have afforded on our own. However, in recent years libraries in our area have made some very questionable choices in content and activities. If public libraries are going to be funded by the taxpayer, it seems only reasonable those taxpayers should have a say in how the funds are spent. The most natural way to do this, as I see it, is by election of library board members. This bill gives everyone involved the opportunity to make their voices heard. I respectfully ask your support of HB 2498. Respectfully, Dave Guest



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DEBORAH HOSTKOETTER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: pauldeb1326@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 11:25 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

PLEASE pass this bill...we MUST protect our children & grandchildren, & everyone else's loved ones!!!! This is SATAN & his minions in full force. Anything about sex should be taught by the parents, not by some sick, perverted info that is in the guise of being "innocent" since it is in the public library! How many kids are allowed to peruse the library without the parent's presence? Children/teens are curious...but this is ridiculous!!! We must fight the evil that is destroying this world/country!! AND this kind of stuff can precede vagrant behavior, rape, incest, & child pornography! It is very addictive & alluring to curious minds. It MUST stop!! May God direct & lead you all in your wholesome endeavors!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DEE BRAY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: damberbee1999@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 1:25 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

We need to have LOCAL CONTROL. The libraries in Missouri have become autocracies, holding Conservative taxpayer dollars hostage. Taxation without representation. This is happening to all the libraries throughout Missouri!*Porn books digitally accessible to minors WITH A JUVENILE LIBRARY CARD via the Libby app, which is a crime.*Obscene “children’s” books such as "This is Perfectly Normal" in the children’s section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. This includes: graphic illustrations of naked adults engaging in sexual positions and activities, illustrations of NAKED CHILDREN looking at their genitalia with hand mirrors and masturbating, illustrations and instructions on how to insert butt plugs, tips and graphic illustrations on how to masturbate and stimulate orgasm in someone else using your hands, illustrations of a minor giving oral sex to girl wearing a strap on, illustrations on how to use a dental dam for oral sex on a female, tips on how to incorporate bondage and BDSM, information on “golden showers” which is finding sexual arousal through being urinated on, instructions on “rimming” which teaches kids how to stick their fingers and tongue into someone’s anus for pleasure, how to send nudes via “sexting” (encouraging pedophilia and illegal activity) and encourages watching porn of complete strangers having sex sending the message to children that casual sex is “normal.” This is vile. It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse.*Copious amounts of LGBTQ materials that is exponentially growing. We have been monitoring the amount of these types of books since June 2023 and we have seen this material more than double in the matter of a few months at the taxpayers expense. Please note that whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The library also denies every single request of any type of pro-Israel material. The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas. The administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers’ dollars should absolutely be ELECTED. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs; not to funded bureaucrats.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DIANNE DODGE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: diannedodge@hushmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 10:04 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a resident of St. Charles County, MO. Myself and many others have implored the library Ceo and board to rid the teen section of pornography and graphic sexual material. They have ignored our pleas. Residents should be able to vote on who is spending our tax dollars at the library. As a Licensed counselor who has years of experience working with teens I know first hand the damage that pornography and graphic reading materials can have on the brain. Please support this bill. Thank you!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: FREDERICK KILDRON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kildron@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 8:53 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

It's crucial to ensure the safety of children in public spaces. Protecting them from inappropriate content is essential. HB 2498 aims to address this issue, and advocating for its support can contribute to creating safer environments for our youth. It's vital to strike a balance between freedom of expression and safeguarding children from harmful material.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GARY MACE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: graymace@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 10:48 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The unelected library boards are out of control in many counties in Missouri. Most self-appointed board members. They have no accountability to the public that pays with their tax dollars.. Please help the Missouri taxpayers have a say, and how their tax dollars are being used. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024	
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GRANT JENNINGS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: oneblc@proton.me	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 1:46 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

We need to have LOCAL CONTROL. The libraries in Missouri have become autocracies, holding taxpayers' dollars hostage. This is Taxation without representation and it's happening to all the ALA libraries throughout Missouri!*Porn books digitally accessible to minors WITH A JUVENILE LIBRARY CARD via the Libby app, which is a crime.*Obscene "children's" books such as "This is Perfectly Normal" in the children's section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. This includes: graphic illustrations of naked adults engaging in sexual positions and activities, illustrations of NAKED CHILDREN looking at their genitalia with hand mirrors and masturbating, illustrations and instructions on how to insert butt plugs, tips and graphic illustrations on how to masturbate and stimulate orgasm in someone else using your hands, illustrations of a minor giving oral sex to girl wearing a strap on, illustrations on how to use a dental dam for oral sex on a female, tips on how to incorporate bondage and BDSM, information on "golden showers" which is finding sexual arousal through being urinated on, instructions on "rimming" which teaches kids how to stick their fingers and tongue into someone's anus for pleasure, how to send nudes via "sexting" (encouraging pedophilia and illegal activity) and encourages watching porn of complete strangers having sex sending the message to children that casual sex is "normal." This is vile. It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse.*Copious amounts of LGBTQ materials that is exponentially growing. We have been monitoring the amount of these types of books since June 2023 and we have seen this material more than double in the matter of a few months at the taxpayers expense. Please note that whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The library also denies every single request of any type of pro-Israel material. The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas.The administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers' dollars should absolutely be ELECTED. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs; not to funded bureaucrats.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GRETCHEN GARRITY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gretchengarrity@proton.me	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 2:46 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I urge our legislators to pass legislation providing election rights to the people of Missouri to elect library boards. Taxpayers deserve to have a say in how their libraries are governed, and appointed, self-perpetuating boards have become unresponsive to the point that both state and local libraries hearken more to the American Library Association rather than citizens and their own communities.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES OLIVER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: truthi1seek@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 1:35 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

We need to have LOCAL CONTROL. The libraries in Missouri have become autocracies, holding Conservative taxpayer dollars hostage. This is Taxation without representation. This is happening to all the libraries throughout Missouri!*Porn books digitally accessible to minors WITH A JUVENILE LIBRARY CARD via the Libby app, which is a crime.*Obscene “children’s” books such as "This is Perfectly Normal" in the children’s section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. This includes: graphic illustrations of naked adults engaging in sexual positions and activities, illustrations of NAKED CHILDREN looking at their genitalia with hand mirrors and masturbating, illustrations and instructions on how to insert butt plugs, tips and graphic illustrations on how to masturbate and stimulate orgasm in someone else using your hands, illustrations of a minor giving oral sex to girl wearing a strap on, illustrations on how to use a dental dam for oral sex on a female, tips on how to incorporate bondage and BDSM, information on “golden showers” which is finding sexual arousal through being urinated on, instructions on “rimming” which teaches kids how to stick their fingers and tongue into someone’s anus for pleasure, how to send nudes via “sexting” (encouraging pedophilia and illegal activity) and encourages watching porn of complete strangers having sex sending the message to children that casual sex is “normal.” This is vile. It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse.*Copious amounts of LGBTQ materials that is exponentially growing. We have been monitoring the amount of these types of books since June 2023 and we have seen this material more than double in the matter of a few months at the taxpayers expense. Please note that whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The library also denies every single request of any type of pro-Israel material. The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas.The administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers’ dollars should absolutely be ELECTED. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs; not to funded bureaucrats.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JEROME S. JACOBSMEYER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jerryjacobsmeier@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 8:35 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Our public libraries are allied with the LGBT "lobby." Our librarians have been trained by LGBT activists to push the LGBT agenda on children. Also our libraries can't seem to find enough "silly stuff" to welcome in to the library. Drag Queen Story Hour, the grooming of children, is one good example. Finally, the quality of the books is bottom of the barrel. Not worth any body's time. There is a world of good literature out there, but you will not find it in the public library. It is time to put the taxpayers on charge. This bill is a step in the right direction.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOHANNA BEAUDEAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jbeaudean@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 12:11 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I support this bill to ensure we have appropriate oversight for government spending in our public libraries, as well as protection of our youngest and most vulnerable patrons, our children.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JUDITH MOOREFIELD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jlrmoorefi@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 9:33 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Support HB2498. It's our tax dollars that support public libraries, thus, directors should be elected, not appointed. The libraries in Missouri (specifically in St. Charles County) have become autocracies, holding Conservative taxpayer dollars hostage. Taxation without representation. We do not want anymore of our money used for perverse agendas, books and choices made by a director catering to a small minority of people who want to not only flaunt their anti-God agenda, but force it down our throats. This agenda and practice includes exposing children to perversions that adults are not even allowed to read out loud in county council meetings. The majority of residents are fed up with the special treatment of the fringe minority at the expense of our children and tax dollars. We are watching all votes, so please support HB 2498.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JUDY K BROWN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: godsangels@juno.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 5:45 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I support this bill in helping to protect our children and families!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JULIA LESINSKI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jski5@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 11:47 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

There has to be some adult accountability to what children are able to find to read! Putting porn material on the shelves of a library that are at the level of young children is terribly wrong. At the very least it needs to be in the adult section so that the adult takes responsibility of reading that material to their children!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JULIE BURGESS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: musicb4me@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 11:32 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Our literary boards must become accountable to the people who pay for them. We are taxed, we must be represented. Situations like the following show libraries are out of control and not accountable to the people.*Obscene “children’s” books in the children’s section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. This includes: graphic illustrations of naked adults engaging in sexual positions and activities, illustrations of **NAKED CHILDREN** looking at their genitalia with hand mirrors and masturbating, illustrations and instructions on how to insert butt plugs, tips and graphic illustrations on how to masturbate and stimulate orgasm in someone else using your hands, illustrations of a minor giving oral sex to girl wearing a strap on, illustrations on how to use a dental dam for oral sex on a female, tips on how to incorporate bondage and BDSM, information on “golden showers” which is finding sexual arousal through being urinated on, instructions on “rimming” which teaches kids how to stick their fingers and tongue into someone’s anus for pleasure, how to send nudes via “sexting” (encouraging pedophilia and illegal activity) and encourages watching porn of complete strangers having sex sending the message to children that casual sex is “normal.” This is vile. It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse.*Copious amounts of LGBTQ materials that is exponentially growing. We have been monitoring the amount of these types of books since June 2023 and we have seen this material more than double in the matter of a few months at the taxpayers expense. Please note that whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas. These are just a few examples of the abuse of power going on in our libraries on our dime. The CEO, the administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers’ dollars should absolutely be elected. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs; not to funded bureaucrats. Thank you



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KARN LEVY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: klevy07@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 6:25 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I support less government budget, less taxes, less financial waste, and spend less money than Illinios. Also, our libraries must be an elected position. It is too powerful and spends too much money to be appointed and no checks & balances. It could be for life with very few have powers of removal. It's more a dictatorship & very unbalanced. They do not have to listen to the public. This is very alarming.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATHERINE COOK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: katherinevcook@outlook.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 2:30 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

In regard to this bill, HB 2498, I urge you to approve this as the people need representation for what our taxes pay for in our public libraries. It needs direct accountability by the people. As they are appointed positions now, we have no say in how our tax dollars are supporting. As the children are our most precious resource and as we want to be able to have a say in how our libraries are ran, we strongly encourage you to move this bill along.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KELLEY AMENT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: aments2012@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 3:29 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a taxpayer, I do believe we should have the right to elect our public library board members. I also support a 2 year term limit for those members. This process will be a fair, diplomatic way for voters to have a say in the happenings at our public libraries. This process is used for other public institutions such as our school boards. It should be used for the library as well.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KELLY MARIE BIRD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kelly.bird@bcmac.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 7:14 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

The libraries in Missouri have become almost dictatorships with Taxation without representation. The citizens of St. Charles in particular (the largest Conservative County in Missouri) are being forced to pay \$21,600,000 a year for: 1) A Drag Queen to run the children’s section of a library branch. Which violates the majority of residents in St. Charles County and confuses children. 2) This Drag Queen has his own security guard (employed by Blackwell) to “protect” said drag employee, costing taxpayer dollars three times what the librarian makes. 3) Gay porn; 4 copies of “Bang Like a Porn Star,” a book filled with 73 pages of graphic photographs of males engaging in gay sex, purchased and located in the middle of the library on the second shelf from the floor in the non-fiction section, completely accessible to minors. This book is also digitally accessible to minors WITH A JUVENILE LIBRARY CARD via the Libby app, which is a crime. 5) Obscene “children’s” books in the children’s section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. If given the opportunity I would love to sit down with you and show you these materials. These materials DO HARM to children and allow for groomers to sexual exploit them. 6) LGBTQ books denouncing God's existence. ***Whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of illicit material, or LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The library also denies every single request of any type of pro-God material. The taxpayers are clearly paying for political agendas and denied material if it goes against these agendas. The abuse of power going on in our libraries is ultimately on taxpayers' funds. The CEO, the administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers' dollars should absolutely be elected. The people should choose! There is no one to take accountability for happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LAURA HAUSLADEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: laura223mo@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 6:26 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill is needed to make sure that the people are able to control what their money is being spent on and what material is being allowed in public libraries.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LAURA MCGINTY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lamjewels@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 2:48 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Since our taxes go to support our public libraries, the public vote to select those to sit on the board should be mandatory. Currently, the Library board in my community makes its own recommendations to fill a seat (those that are likeminded), and those are the folks that are selected. It has happened over and over again. As of now, there is no way to have fair and balanced decision making. It's all one sided. Thank you for this bill being introduced and I pray that it passes! I am 100%in favor of HB2498



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LEE BRAINARD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: leecedric27@proton.me	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 1:43 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

We need to have LOCAL CONTROL. The libraries in Missouri have become autocracies, holding taxpayers' dollars hostage. Taxation without representation. This is happening to all the libraries throughout Missouri!*Porn books digitally accessible to minors WITH A JUVENILE LIBRARY CARD via the Libby app, which is a crime.*Obscene "children's" books such as "This is Perfectly Normal" in the children's section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. This includes: graphic illustrations of naked adults engaging in sexual positions and activities, illustrations of NAKED CHILDREN looking at their genitalia with hand mirrors and masturbating, illustrations and instructions on how to insert butt plugs, tips and graphic illustrations on how to masturbate and stimulate orgasm in someone else using your hands, illustrations of a minor giving oral sex to girl wearing a strap on, illustrations on how to use a dental dam for oral sex on a female, tips on how to incorporate bondage and BDSM, information on "golden showers" which is finding sexual arousal through being urinated on, instructions on "rimming" which teaches kids how to stick their fingers and tongue into someone's anus for pleasure, how to send nudes via "sexting" (encouraging pedophilia and illegal activity) and encourages watching porn of complete strangers having sex sending the message to children that casual sex is "normal." This is vile. It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse.*Copious amounts of LGBTQ materials that is exponentially growing. We have been monitoring the amount of these types of books since June 2023 and we have seen this material more than double in the matter of a few months at the taxpayers expense. Please note that whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The library also denies every single request of any type of pro-Israel material. The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas. The administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers' dollars should absolutely be ELECTED. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs; not to funded bureaucrats.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LOUIS LESINSKI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: loulesinski@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 10:41 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Citizens are suffering taxation without representation, County libraries use our tax dollars by unelected officials to hire a security guard, employed by Blackwell, to protect a man dressed in drag in the children's section of the Kathryn Linnemann library because taxpayers object to Gay porn like "Bang Like a Porn star" with graphic pictures of gay sex. Books with naked children doing sex acts & how to masturbate others for an orgasm in the children's section. They have LGBTQ materials, but refuse requests for books opposing the LGBTQ agenda. Please pass this bill! Thank you!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024	
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LUKE JENNINGS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: onelukeyoneleia@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 1:38 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

We need to have LOCAL CONTROL. The libraries in Missouri have become autocracies, holding Conservative taxpayer dollars hostage. This is Taxation without representation. This is happening to all the libraries throughout Missouri!*Porn books digitally accessible to minors WITH A JUVENILE LIBRARY CARD via the Libby app, which is a crime.*Obscene “children’s” books such as "This is Perfectly Normal" in the children’s section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. This includes: graphic illustrations of naked adults engaging in sexual positions and activities, illustrations of NAKED CHILDREN looking at their genitalia with hand mirrors and masturbating, illustrations and instructions on how to insert butt plugs, tips and graphic illustrations on how to masturbate and stimulate orgasm in someone else using your hands, illustrations of a minor giving oral sex to girl wearing a strap on, illustrations on how to use a dental dam for oral sex on a female, tips on how to incorporate bondage and BDSM, information on “golden showers” which is finding sexual arousal through being urinated on, instructions on “rimming” which teaches kids how to stick their fingers and tongue into someone’s anus for pleasure, how to send nudes via “sexting” (encouraging pedophilia and illegal activity) and encourages watching porn of complete strangers having sex sending the message to children that casual sex is “normal.” This is vile. It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse.*Copious amounts of LGBTQ materials that is exponentially growing. We have been monitoring the amount of these types of books since June 2023 and we have seen this material more than double in the matter of a few months at the taxpayers expense. Please note that whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The library also denies every single request of any type of pro-Israel material. The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas.The administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers’ dollars should absolutely be ELECTED. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs; not to funded bureaucrats.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY C FRKOVIC		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: maryfrk@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 9:42 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The libraries in Missouri (specifically in St. Charles County) have become autocracies, holding Conservative taxpayer dollars hostage. Taxation without representation. The citizens of St. Charles (the largest Conservative county in Missouri) are being forced to pay \$21,600,000 a year for: *A...man dressing in drag to run the children’s section of a library branch...*A security guard (employed by Blackwell) to “protect” said...employee, costing taxpayer dollars three times what the librarian makes (a complete waste of money)...*Gay porn... purchased and located in the middle of the library on the second shelf from the floor in the non-fiction section, completely accessible to minors. This book is also digitally accessible to minors WITH A JUVENILE LIBRARY CARD via the Libby app, which is a crime. *Obscene “children’s” books in the children’s section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material... It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse...The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas. These are just a few examples of the abuse of power going on in our libraries on our dime. The CEO, the administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers’ dollars should absolutely be elected. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs.



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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY HERNANDEZ DE CARL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mchernan@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 11:58 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Given the large amount of tax revenues directed towards public libraries, it makes sense to have an elected library board of trustees to oversee the administration of the libraries. It will provided greater accountability and will ensure proper representation of the communities needs in our state's libraries.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY SCHLUETER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: maryschlueter@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 12:51 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I support this bill. I'm tired of our tax dollars buying these pornographic how-to books, e books Etc. I have attended 4 library board meetings and have spoken at 3 meetings. We are mocked, people yelling out "Hail Satan ". Hopefully this bill will bring back decency to st Charles county libraries.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MATT CRAWFORD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: truthspeaking@proton.me	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 1:24 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

We need to have LOCAL CONTROL. The libraries in Missouri have become autocracies, holding Conservative taxpayer dollars hostage. Taxation without representation. This is happening to all the libraries throughout Missouri!*Porn books digitally accessible to minors WITH A JUVENILE LIBRARY CARD via the Libby app, which is a crime.*Obscene “children’s” books such as "This is Perfectly Normal" in the children’s section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. This includes: graphic illustrations of naked adults engaging in sexual positions and activities, illustrations of NAKED CHILDREN looking at their genitalia with hand mirrors and masturbating, illustrations and instructions on how to insert butt plugs, tips and graphic illustrations on how to masturbate and stimulate orgasm in someone else using your hands, illustrations of a minor giving oral sex to girl wearing a strap on, illustrations on how to use a dental dam for oral sex on a female, tips on how to incorporate bondage and BDSM, information on “golden showers” which is finding sexual arousal through being urinated on, instructions on “rimming” which teaches kids how to stick their fingers and tongue into someone’s anus for pleasure, how to send nudes via “sexting” (encouraging pedophilia and illegal activity) and encourages watching porn of complete strangers having sex sending the message to children that casual sex is “normal.” This is vile. It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse.*Copious amounts of LGBTQ materials that is exponentially growing. We have been monitoring the amount of these types of books since June 2023 and we have seen this material more than double in the matter of a few months at the taxpayers expense. Please note that whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The library also denies every single request of any type of pro-Israel material. The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas. The administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers’ dollars should absolutely be ELECTED. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs; not to funded bureaucrats.



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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL MILLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mike.miller4211@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 3:21 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Since our libraries are funded with public funds, I believe that library board members/trustees who approve library budgets and policies should be elected to their positions, and not merely appointed.



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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MIKE MOOREFIELD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mrmconstco@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 8:39 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill will be a positive step toward keeping our children safe from being exposed to this harmful garbage they are bombarded with. Shame on the people who think this kind of material (raw pornography) is okay for them to have access to



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NANCY L. BOND		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: nancyleebond@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 2:03 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

We taxpayers and library users want an elected library board. We want a part in choosing who governs our libraries. Thank you, Nancy Bond



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PAM WINTER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: winter.pamd@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 8:59 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The libraries in Missouri (specifically in St. Charles County) have become autocracies, holding Conservative taxpayer dollars hostage. Taxation without representation. The citizens of St. Charles (the largest Conservative county in Missouri) are being forced to pay \$21,600,000 a year for: *A perverted man dressing in drag to run the children’s section of the Kathryn Linnemann library branch.*A security guard (employed by Blackwell) to “protect” said drag employee, costing taxpayer dollars three times what the librarian makes (a complete waste of money). *Gay porn; 4 copies of “Bang Like a Porn Star,” a book filled with 73 pages of graphic photographs of males engaging in gay sex, purchased and located in the middle of the library on the second shelf from the floor in the non-fiction section, completely accessible to minors. This book is also digitally accessible to minors WITH A JUVENILE LIBRARY CARD via the Libby app, which is a crime.*Obscene “children’s” books in the children’s section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. This includes: graphic illustrations of naked adults engaging in sexual positions and activities, illustrations of NAKED CHILDREN looking at their genitalia with hand mirrors and masturbating, illustrations and instructions on how to insert butt plugs, tips and graphic illustrations on how to masturbate and stimulate orgasm in someone else using your hands, illustrations of a minor giving oral sex to girl wearing a strap on, illustrations on how to use a dental dam for oral sex on a female, tips on how to incorporate bondage and BDSM, information on “golden showers” which is finding sexual arousal through being urinated on, instructions on “rimming” which teaches kids how to stick their fingers and tongue into someone’s anus for pleasure, how to send nudes via “sexting” (encouraging pedophilia and illegal activity) and encourages watching porn of complete strangers having sex sending the message to children that casual sex is “normal.” This is vile. It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse.*Copious amounts of LGBTQ materials that is exponentially growing. We have been monitoring the amount of these types of books since June 2023 and we have seen this material more than double in the matter of a few months at the taxpayers expense. Please note that whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The library also denies every single request of any type of pro-Israel material. The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas. These are just a few examples of the abuse of power going on in our libraries on our dime. The CEO, the administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers’ dollars should absolutely be elected. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs; not to funded bureaucrats.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PATRICIA CELESTE CORNELL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: patriciaicon@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 9:29 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

This bill is needed to stop the flow of bad books in Carpenter Library...either porn or no storyline books. Our attempts to intro good books to the St. Louis system are met with NO ..e.g. John Senior's One Thousand Good Books or annual popular books from American children to publishers,...head of STL Library Waller refused several times to meet with us. We need educated, interested citizens..moms and dad's to support good books for the next generationslike quality food, quality reading.....they grow quality citizens.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PAUL REISING		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: padre67@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 6:58 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I support the bill that returns my voice as to how my tax dollars are being used in public libraries. I could never have envisioned porn made available to youth and being paid for with tax dollars. We tax payers must have oversight as what shall or shall not be put in the hands of children. My great grand daughter was accosted by a pervert so I have strong feelings in this matter



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RACHEL HOMOLAK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rachel.homolak@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 11:03 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The libraries in Missouri (specifically in St. Charles County) have become autocracies, holding Conservative taxpayer dollars hostage. Taxation without representation. The citizens of St. Charles (the largest Conservative county in Missouri) are being forced to pay \$21,600,000 a year for: *A perverted man dressing in drag to run the children’s section of the Kathryn Linnemann library branch. *A security guard (employed by Blackwell) to “protect” said drag employee, costing taxpayer dollars three times what the librarian makes (a complete waste of money). *Gay porn; 4 copies of “Bang Like a Porn Star,” a book filled with 73 pages of graphic photographs of males engaging in gay sex, purchased and located in the middle of the library on the second shelf from the floor in the non-fiction section, completely accessible to minors. This book is also digitally accessible to minors WITH A JUVENILE LIBRARY CARD via the Libby app, which is a crime. *Obscene “children’s” books in the children’s section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. This includes: graphic illustrations of naked adults engaging in sexual positions and activities, illustrations of NAKED CHILDREN looking at their genitalia with hand mirrors and masturbating, illustrations and instructions on how to insert butt plugs, tips and graphic illustrations on how to masturbate and stimulate orgasm in someone else using your hands, illustrations of a minor giving oral sex to girl wearing a strap on, illustrations on how to use a dental dam for oral sex on a female, tips on how to incorporate bondage and BDSM, information on “golden showers” which is finding sexual arousal through being urinated on, instructions on “rimming” which teaches kids how to stick their fingers and tongue into someone’s anus for pleasure, how to send nudes via “sexting” (encouraging pedophilia and illegal activity) and encourages watching porn of complete strangers having sex sending the message to children that casual sex is “normal.” This is vile. It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse.*Copious amounts of LGBTQ materials that is exponentially growing. We have been monitoring the amount of these types of books since June 2023 and we have seen this material more than double in the matter of a few months at the taxpayers expense. Please note that whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The library also denies every single request of any type of pro-Israel material. The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas. These are just a few examples of the abuse of power going on in our libraries on our dime. The CEO, the administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers’ dollars should absolutely be elected. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs; not to funded bureaucrats. Thank you.



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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: REBECCA MILLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mikeoct@live.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 2:56 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

When tax money from the people fund the board, then the people serving should reflect the values of the people they help serve and should be elected. Libraries are a political subdivision and funded with taxpayer's money, so should be accountable, and under control of those people, NOT the county commissioners.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RHONDA JEAN CROWE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lulujean177@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 11:17 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RICHARD MICHAEL FRANCO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rmfranco76@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 9:49 PM

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As taxpayer funded public institutions, the libraries should be under the control of citizen-elected boards. Any arrangement otherwise leads to institutions run amok.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RON WEEKS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: MoparLaw@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 8:54 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ROXANE MAGNUS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: roxane@capemoenterprises.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 7:44 PM

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The library board need to be an elected position just like many other boards where our tax dollars are involved otherwise our tax dollars need to be removed from supporting the libraries. Please pass this Bill



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SANDRA BLACKWELL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sblackwell1255@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 8:26 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SHAUNA BRANDT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: shauna_brandt@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 9:39 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SHEILA A KEATING		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sheilak1986@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 8:16 PM

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I am in support of this bill to create an elected board to run the public libraries. It is imperative that the people be able to direct the actions of the libraries by being involved in selection of leadership.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SILVIA PALETTA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: spaletta09@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 2:28 PM

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As a substitute teacher in the Rockwood School District, I experienced myself the kind of books that are available to our children. Totally inappropriate!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TERRY EATHERTON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: thecarrepairdoctors@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 11:31 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Hello, my name is Terry Eatherton, I have lived in St. Charles County all my life. Growing up, the St. Charles County libraries were always a fun place to go with my mom. When I had kids we would always take our children to the libraries to explore and experience new books. About 5 years ago my wife took my daughter (age 5 at the time) to the library to pick out a couple of books for bed time. My daughter found a book on display that looked like a story about a mermaid. That night she was so excited to read the new book she found. My wife started to read her the book, but after only a few pages into the book, my wife realized this book was about being transgender. Furious, my wife, stopped reading the propaganda and my daughter, not understanding why she would not finish the book, was very upset and cried uncontrollably because she wanted to finish her "Mermaid" book. I want you to keep in mind this book was on display, with no warning whatsoever and nothing on the cover or title, that would insinuate what this book was about. I tell you this story to reiterate the fact that these books didn't start showing up in our libraries, until Jason Kuhl was made CEO of the Libraries. Jason Kuhl, who was forced to resign from Arlington Heights Library after he pulled the same stunts there. So how did an Ultra Progressive Communist get put in charge of a library in a 70% Republican County? I'll tell you, the library board is in charge of appointing the CEO. The mayor of St. Charles City gets 4 of the appointments of the board members and the county executive gets the other 5. This has led to a library board made up of exclusively woke liberals. After a year of fighting against the tyranny of this board, we finally got one person elected to the board that actually reflects the values of the people of our county. But one of 9 does not represent the overwhelming majority of conservatives in our county. I would really like a say as to how my library district is run, if I can vote for school board members, then why should I not get a say for library board members? The fact that these libraries are not enforcing common sense and are actually peddling pornographic material to kids should be all you need to vote in favor of HB2498. My wife and I have only been back to the library to return the hidden agenda "mermaid" book and to attend and speak out at Library board meetings. We are fighting tooth and nail, against what the library board and Jason Kuhl has done to our once loved library. Currently, there is no way to remove board members until their term is up and in many cases they have just been reappointed even after a huge community effort to get them removed. I also have spoken to several workers at the library who are against what is happening, but they are too afraid to speak up about the insanity around this woke administration. My hope is, that you will vote in favor of this bill so my Representative Republic can actually be REPRESENTATIVE!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: THERESA LINTZENICH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: theresaphoto7@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 9:23 PM

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Missouri libraries (specifically in St. Charles County) are now autocracies, holding Conservative taxpayer dollars hostage. Taxation without representation. The citizens of St. Charles (the largest Conservative county in Missouri) are being forced to pay \$21,600,000 a year for: 1. A man dressing in drag working in the children’s section of the Kathryn Linnemann library branch 2. A security guard (employed by Blackwell) to “protect” said drag employee, costing taxpayer dollars three times what the librarian makes (a complete waste of money). 3. Gay porn; 4 copies of “Bang Like a Porn Star,” a book filled with 73 pages of graphic photographs of males engaging in gay sex, purchased and located in the middle of the library on the second shelf from the floor in the non-fiction section, completely accessible to minors. This book is also digitally accessible to minors WITH A JUVENILE LIBRARY CARD via the Libby app, which is a crime. 4. Obscene “children’s” books (including “It’s Perfectly Normal”) in the children’s section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. Included are graphic illustrations of naked adults engaging in sexual positions and activities, illustrations of NAKED CHILDREN looking at their genitalia with hand mirrors and masturbating, illustrations and instructions on how to insert butt plugs, tips and graphic illustrations on how to masturbate and stimulate orgasm in someone else using your hands, illustrations of a minor giving oral sex to girl wearing a strap on, illustrations on how to use a dental dam for oral sex on a female, tips on how to incorporate bondage and BDSM, information on “golden showers” which is finding sexual arousal through being urinated on, instructions on “rimming” which teaches kids how to stick their fingers and tongue into someone’s anus for pleasure, how to send nudes via “sexting” (encouraging pedophilia and illegal activity) and encourages watching porn of complete strangers having sex sending the message to children that casual sex is “normal.” This is vile. It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse. I filed a “reconsideration” form against “Its Perfectly Normal” by Robie H. Harris, and got a reply that they are keeping in the teen section. This book is the top book in the nation that has been pulled from library collections. But why is it kept on the shelf here? And for minors? 5. Very large amounts of LGBTQ materials that is exponentially growing. We have been monitoring the amount of these types of books since June 2023 and we have seen this material more than double in the matter of a few months at the taxpayers expense. Please note that whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The library also denies every single request of any type of pro-Israel material. The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas. These are just a few examples of the abuse of power going on in our libraries on our dime. The CEO, the administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers’ dollars should absolutely be elected. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power

back to the people where it belongs; not to funded bureaucrats. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TRACY FORKER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tforkpottery@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 2:48 PM

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Public libraries are wonderful community resources. It is fitting that those who make decisions impacting communities through the services of the public libraries should be chosen/elected by those citizens who fund (via taxes) and utilize this public service.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: VIRGINIA OLIVER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: truthi1seek@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 1:33 PM

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We need to have LOCAL CONTROL. The libraries in Missouri have become autocracies, holding Conservative taxpayer dollars hostage. Taxation without representation. This is happening to all the libraries throughout Missouri!*Porn books digitally accessible to minors WITH A JUVENILE LIBRARY CARD via the Libby app, which is a crime.*Obscene “children’s” books such as "This is Perfectly Normal" in the children’s section, meant and targeted towards minors, that teach children inappropriate and obscene sexual material. This includes: graphic illustrations of naked adults engaging in sexual positions and activities, illustrations of NAKED CHILDREN looking at their genitalia with hand mirrors and masturbating, illustrations and instructions on how to insert butt plugs, tips and graphic illustrations on how to masturbate and stimulate orgasm in someone else using your hands, illustrations of a minor giving oral sex to girl wearing a strap on, illustrations on how to use a dental dam for oral sex on a female, tips on how to incorporate bondage and BDSM, information on “golden showers” which is finding sexual arousal through being urinated on, instructions on “rimming” which teaches kids how to stick their fingers and tongue into someone’s anus for pleasure, how to send nudes via “sexting” (encouraging pedophilia and illegal activity) and encourages watching porn of complete strangers having sex sending the message to children that casual sex is “normal.” This is vile. It enables pedophiles and grooms children to become victims of sexual abuse.*Copious amounts of LGBTQ materials that is exponentially growing. We have been monitoring the amount of these types of books since June 2023 and we have seen this material more than double in the matter of a few months at the taxpayers expense. Please note that whenever a book has been requested that opposes any type of LGBTQ agenda, the library denies every single request. The library also denies every single request of any type of pro-Israel material. The taxpayers are clearly paying for harmful agendas and denied material if it goes against said agendas.The administrative staff, the trustees and any other positions directly handling the taxpayers’ dollars should absolutely be ELECTED. Let the people choose! There is no oversight or accountability happening in our libraries. This bill will at least bring some of that power back to the people where it belongs; not to funded bureaucrats.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: ZE'EV SMASON		PHONE NUMBER: 314-749-5271
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: COALITION FOR JEWISH VALUES MISSOURI		TITLE: RABBI
ADDRESS: 19 BON HILLS DR.		
CITY: OLIVETTE		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63132
EMAIL: zsmason@cjvalues.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 6:24 PM

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This important bill requires public libraries with the authority to levy or collect taxes to be governed by an elected public library board. This bill will enable the independent and professional functioning of our state's libraries, and protect readers of all ages -- particularly children -- from exposure to the plethora of inappropriate and indecent reading and viewing material that tragically can now be found in many public libraries. Ad hoc appointments to our public libraries or means other than an elected public library board creates a greater risk of our children and others being exposed to inappropriate and indecent material.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANGIE EVANS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: coolmommaof3@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2024 3:02 PM

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I am reaching out in opposition to bill HB 248. I strongly object to board members being elected by ballot as opposed to appointments . This will come at a high cost to libraries that are already running on tight budgets. please consider this when voting on this bill.ThanksAngieLibrary Board Member



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CAROL GILLES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: carolgilles2@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 1:34 PM

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Testimony for HB 2498 This bill has several problems that will cost libraries money and cause confusion to the staff. The election process alone will cost libraries money that could go towards buying quality materials for children, youth, and adults. Further, two-year terms will require libraries to constantly be involved in training new board members about the library's workings. Further, it takes a year before one really understands the scope of the work. Most importantly, this bill states that the board engages in the daily work of selecting and removing materials and even hires or fires staff. Boards that I'm familiar with in industry, banks, or philanthropy never do daily work, that is why they hire high quality people. Boards, instead, provide oversight of the director, who is responsible for the day-to day operation. In this case, that is the library director. Implementing this bill will cause more harm than good, and I urge you to not pass it.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CLAUDIA YOUNG		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-2464	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 214 ADAMS			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 12:00 AM	
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CODY CROAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION		TITLE: MISSOURI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE	
ADDRESS:			
CITY: LEES SUMMIT		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64081
EMAIL: ccroanlibrarian@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 6:06 PM	

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HB 2498 will create immense costs to Missouri’s public libraries by requiring library board members to be elected every two years in a general election. Libraries would be required to share the costs of the election when their board members are on the ballot. These costs can vary greatly depending on how many other ballot issues appear during an election. With library budgets already thin from the rising costs of providing services, the added election expense that all libraries in Missouri could be required to pay in any given election would be in the range of millions of dollars. The fiscal note for HB 2498 at the time of submitting this testimony states the cost to local funds for libraries is unknown but could exceed \$2,221,216 in FY 2025 and FY 2027, and \$846,350 in FY 2026. The bill reduces all library board member terms to two years thereby increasing the cycle of having to onboard new board members which creates additional costs above and beyond the election costs. Having a new board every two years would disrupt the strategic work of the library as it would not be able to plan beyond the next election. For many smaller communities, finding individuals with the ability and desire to run for office for a library board may leave the library completely without a board and unable to operate library services as promised to its community when the voters enacted a levy and decided to start their library. The current system of library board members appointed by elected officials works well. It ensures that becoming a member of the local library board is an opportunity open to all in the community. A board comprised of individuals from all over the community means that library services truly are for the community.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: ELAINE TENZER		PHONE NUMBER: 314-991-0196	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SYSTEMS & STRATEGIES		TITLE: OWNER	
ADDRESS: 11210 MOSLEY HILL DRIVE			
CITY: CREVE COEUR		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63141
EMAIL: emtenzer@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 2:52 PM	

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This bill would add so much money to the budget of a library. A public library is one of the best resources offered. They not only save citizens of the cost of buying book/periodicals/CDs/DVDs/etc... but they also give people a place to go and to introduce the world of reading to their children. This bill would not only be costly, but also make the libraries run inefficiently. In general it makes me sick every year at the amounts of money that are spent on elections. Let us skip that waste by leaving the libraries alone.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ELLEN MOSES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ellensmoses@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 5:56 PM

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The passage of this law would greatly hinder the work librarians have degrees to do. In addition, it would prevent libraries from continuing the services they provide to the communities. Please celebrate the work of our libraries by allowing the current systems to stay in place rather than changing a system that works and is thriving.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: EVA M. DUNN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-238-2713
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: BOLLINGER COUNTY LIBRARY		TITLE: LIBRARY DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 207 MAYFIELD DR. PO BOX 919		
CITY: MARBLE HILL	STATE: MO	ZIP: 63764
EMAIL: emz000@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2024 2:47 PM

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Representative Lovasco and Committee Members,As Library Director for Bollinger County Library district, I was very dismayed to see this bill come before the legislature. Of the 160 public libraries in Missouri, there are several very large libraries but there are a LOT of small libraries that run on a shoestring. Tax increases are almost impossible to get and I try and run a county-wide library on approx. \$170,000 in local tax support and a few other threads of financial income. In doing a basic rundown of what this measure would cost my district alone, I found that in a year when there are other measures on the ballot, the election would cost appoximately \$6,500. That's \$1,500 more than my book budget. In years where we would be the only election measure, that cost would rise to at least \$19,000. That's more than 10% of my tax support. I talked with one larger library who said their costs would be around \$100,000 every year. 160 public libraries. These kinds of costs are not sustainable. The other expense in this bill is for the time it will take for an administrative person each week to pull together an excel list of books that are purchased and deleted.(I assume you will not actually have the board do the purchasing and deleting for free in an unpaid position) For my library this would be two hours per week for an administrative person to create this doc. at a cost of \$2,600 per year. I can't even imagine what that would translate into in a metropolitan district with 26 branches.This bill does not make fiscal sense. In a committee that if about efficiency and downsizing,this is exactly the opposite. Another layer of government. Public libraries have board members that are appointed by the "local" government officials and commissioners. These officials were elected by the people to do a job. Please let them continue to do their job without additional costs that are not sustainable for either small libraries or large ones.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JACKIE HAWES		PHONE NUMBER: 660-747-1699	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: TRAILS REGIONAL LIBRARY		TITLE: DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 432 N HOLDEN			
CITY: WARRENSBURG		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64093
EMAIL: director@trailslibrary.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/3/2024 12:39 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I'm writing to report the fiscal and operational impacts of HB2498 requiring tax-supported Missouri public libraries to be governed by an elected library board. Currently our ten-member Board of Trustees is appointed by elected County Commission members at no cost. Should HB2498 go into effect, our library would be required to pay for our share of each annual municipal election. After discussing election costs with our County Clerks, the estimated direct annual cost to our library would be approximately \$45,000 per year. Additional indirect costs related to filing required paperwork with the County Clerk's office, requesting attorney consultations on ballot language, and foregoing uncontested elections if possible, would cost the library an estimated \$600 a year in administrative hours and attorney fees. The bill, which would also reduce our trustee terms from 4 years to 2, could also substantially increase the amount of administrative time required each year to onboard incoming individual library trustees. In addition to adding new administrative responsibilities to the library in terms of election paperwork. The orientation process in which trustees learn about the fiscal reports, budget cycles, and policy procedures, indirect costs related to this aspect is estimated at \$840 (16 administrative hours a year). Total estimated direct and indirect costs related to HB2498 would be \$46,440. For context, our current service population is 82,736 and our 2024 operating budget was \$4,217,985. We understand the need for taxpayer oversight of library policies and operations, but I hope the current requirements in State reporting and County Commission appointments will be considered by our state representatives as a more cost-effective means of ensuring adequate taxpayer representation.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JAMIE SPARKS		PHONE NUMBER: 660-826-1314
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SEDALIA PUBLIC LIBRARY		TITLE: DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 311 W. 3RD		
CITY: SEDALIA	STATE: MO	ZIP: 65301
EMAIL: jsparks@sedalialibrary.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 10:21 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I'm writing to report the fiscal and operational impacts of HB2498 requiring tax-supported Missouri public libraries to be governed by an elected library board. Currently our nine-member Board of Trustees is appointed by the Mayor and elected by City Council at no cost. Should HB2498 go into effect, our library would be required to pay for our share of each annual municipal election. The cost estimate for this requirement, provided by the Pettis County Clerk, states that a library board election might cost between \$9,000-\$14,000. To put this amount into context, this would cost the library around 4-6 months' worth of new books for our library community. Additionally, there would likely be indirect costs related to filing required paperwork with the County Clerk's office, requesting attorney consultations on ballot language, and foregoing uncontested elections, if possible, would cost the library an estimated \$600 a year in administrative hours and attorney fees. The bill, which would also reduce our trustee terms from 3 years to 2, could also substantially increase the amount of administrative time required each year to onboard incoming individual library trustees. In addition to adding new administrative responsibilities to the library in terms of election paperwork, the orientation process in which trustees learn about the fiscal reports, budget cycles, and policy procedures, indirect costs related to this aspect is estimated at \$550 (16 administrative hours a year). Total estimated direct and indirect costs related to HB2498 would be between \$10,150-\$15,150. We understand the need for taxpayer oversight of library policies and operations, but I hope the current requirements in State reporting and City Council approval will be considered by our state representatives as a more cost-effective means of ensuring adequate taxpayer representation.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JEN	PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN ST. LOUIS	TITLE: ADVOCACY MANAGER	
ADDRESS: 295 NORTH LINDBERGH BLVD.		
CITY: ST. LOUIS	STATE: MO	ZIP: 63141
EMAIL: jbernstein@ncjwstl.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 10:14 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Mr. Chair and members of the committee, my name is Jen Bernstein, and I am submitting this testimony in opposition of HB 2498 on behalf of the National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis (NCJWSTL). NCJWSTL is a non-profit organization in metropolitan St. Louis, representing over 5,000 members and supporters throughout the state. We focus our work on community service, advocacy, education and philanthropy to improve the quality of life for women, children and families while supporting individual and civil rights, and have been doing so since 1895. HB 2498 would require all public library boards to be elected. This bill also changes the number of members on a board for a library to five members total, reduces terms to two years, and requires the elections to happen in November elections. We are finding that just the election costs will require Missouri's libraries to spend millions of dollars for that alone. This does not include costs for onboarding and training of new board members at a faster rate. These costs will impact all libraries' budgets and services significantly. This bill creates confusion regarding staff and board responsibilities for the library. This bill explicitly states the board will provide services of selecting and removing materials and hiring and firing all staff, which are not typical of tax supported libraries. Boards should provide oversight of the library director who oversees all operational aspects of the library. If the board has questions on any given area, they can inquire further into the work and decisions, and ultimately vote to direct staff on actions to take. However, this bill explicitly says they will be involved in that daily work which would make the work of providing library services inefficient and cost ineffective for the taxpayers. It hinders the library's ability to serve its community who ultimately approved the tax to put library services in place. Please keep our libraries serving our communities efficiently and appropriately. NCJWSTL encourages you to vote no on HB 2498.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JOELLEN PRATT		PHONE NUMBER: 816-632-2311
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: CAMERON PUBLIC LIBRARY		TITLE: DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 312 N. CHESTNUT ST.		
CITY: CAMERON	STATE: MO	ZIP: 64429
EMAIL: director@cameronlibrary.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 12:40 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am the director of Cameron Public Library in Cameron, MO. We are a city tax funded library that serves a community of approximately 8,513. Our tax generated funding in 2023 was \$209,487. Our Library board is made up of 9 city residents. Each term for the board member is 3 years and they are eligible to renew 2 times for a total time of service of nine years. I have been the director of the library for 12 years. In this time I have received, unsolicited, only two board member applications. When I contacted the two applicants who applied to share what the responsibilities of a board member are, they were not able to fulfill the role. All other applicants needed to be sought out. A challenge that this bill would bring is finding people who desire running a campaign for this position. This would require time, energy and money for an unpaid position. We are currently undergoing scrutiny at the school board level on books in the library. This is not a positive time to be running for office, let alone an office where book, program and service decisions are made. The cost to the library to be put on the ballot annually in two counties is approximately \$2500, depending on what other measures are on the ballot. The equates to 20% of my book budget, all of my programs budget or a parttime staff person, These are significant numbers when working with a budget our size. Please help us continue to provide services to our small community and do not pass this bill. Thank you!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JONELL MINTON		PHONE NUMBER: 573-344-0476
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: DUNKLIN COUNTY LIBRARY		TITLE: LIBRARY DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 209 NORTH MAIN STREET		
CITY: KENNETT	STATE: MO	ZIP: 63857
EMAIL: jonell@dunklin-co.lib.mo.us	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 2:18 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Holding an election every 2 years would cost the Dunklin County library about \$12,000, according to the county clerk of Dunklin County. Removing that amount of money for an election will not provide tangible items or services to our Dunklin County library patrons and taxpayers. Currently, within our county, the library board is made up of appointed individuals, who are library users and community members. Each of the five board members represent a different area of our county, so not one or two seats hold every library board spot. Long-term plans are in place; and if a board changes every 2 years, continuity with those plans could be compromised. With the yearly loss of \$12,000, it could cripple our programs, services and upgrades, and so much more. Every year, we honor children who finish kindergarten by putting a children's book dedicated to them in their home library branch. This 20 year-old program could be in jeopardy if funds are spent on an election, rather than bringing children into the library and celebrating their accomplishments. We value our community's commitment to creating lifelong readers for these children. If a part time employee is dismissed, it puts other staff members in a difficult position to do their jobs. Library hours of operation could be cut with doors locked providing no services at that time for the taxpayers of Dunklin County. As a community-supported library system in a rural area, patrons have daily access to the internet, Wi-Fi and public computers. Losing \$12k could jeopardize matching grants to update computers as part of the current tech rotation plan. Students use the Wi-Fi before, after school and even on the weekends when home internet is not available. Individuals in our county can print, prepare a resume, apply for a job, and much more on the public computers. The Dunklin County Library plays a crucial role in providing essential services to our senior population who are passionate about reading. The absence of books would have a significant negative impact on our county library system. Each day, numerous large print books are borrowed, audiobooks are highly sought after, and regular print books cater to the needs of our entire community. The scarcity of around 1100 books, which could have been acquired with the allocated \$12,000, would result in a devastating blow to our library system. The current appointed Dunklin County Library board members value the appointment received. They are honored to serve their communities throughout our county yet they are not individuals who may seek an elected library board position. They have no agenda only what is best for citizens of Dunklin County. Please leave the appointed library boards as it currently exists.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LINDA MYERS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: bp.library@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 9:58 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

With a yearly budget of forty thousand dollars, every penny has to be counted. We here at Bloomfield Public Library could not pay the six to ten thousand dollars in fees to elect an library board trustees. Here in southeast Missouri money is very tight. Two plants closed this year, Tyson's and Magnum seven. There are a lot of elderly people that rely on our computers , fax and copy machines to survive. If this bill passes we might have to close our doors.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: LISE BERNSTEIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-239-6366
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: RIGHT TO READ: SUPPORTING MISSOURI'S LIBRARIES COALITION		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 7391 BEDFORD AVE		
CITY: UNIVERSITY CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63130
EMAIL: lisebernstein@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 2:22 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

This testimony is from the "Right to Read: Supporting Missouri's Libraries" statewide coalition; we speak for 800 individuals and 60 organizations throughout Missouri. We oppose HB2498 because it adds unnecessary administrative and financial burdens on Missouri's 1,513 libraries, particularly those in rural areas with smaller staffs. Having elections every two years for library boards requires significant staff time and costs that libraries would incur. It would take time away from the primary function of library staffs--to provide valuable services and programs that benefit the public. The current method of appointed library boards allows for careful review of potential members whereas elections require candidates to raise campaign funds which is a barrier for many qualified board members. Appointed library boards have functioned extremely well for decades. In addition, many of the duties specified in this bill for board members are duplicative of those that fall under the purview of trained, experienced library professionals. This committee has the word "efficiency" in its title; HB2498 would result in a far less efficient library system.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: MARGARET CONROY		PHONE NUMBER: 573-877-2011
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: DANIEL BOONE REGIONAL LIBRARY		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 100 W. BROADWAY		
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65203
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024	
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MARGARET PERKINS MCGUINESS		PHONE NUMBER: 785-218-3967	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: KANSAS CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY		TITLE: DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/PHILANTHROPY	
ADDRESS: 14 W. 10TH STREET			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64111
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHELLE MEARS		PHONE NUMBER: 816-205-7000
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: ROLLING HILLS CONSOLIDATED LIBRARY		TITLE: LIBRARY DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 1912 N. BELT HWY		
CITY: SAINT JOSEPH		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 64506
EMAIL: mmears@rhcl.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 9:12 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Public library boards do not need to be elected. They are appointed by elected officials, so there is input from the community through these appointments and those elected officials can make changes at any time if they believe a library board member is neglecting their duties. In many rural areas of the state, it is difficult enough to find enough board members willing to serve let alone being willing to go through the process of filing as a candidate and willing to run for office. This bill is also too brief and does not address whether terms will be staggered, why such a short term of two years is proposed, how to create an odd number of board members when we currently have an even number with coverage of two counties. and why any of section 2 is needed at all as board member duties are already delineated in statute. This bill would cost our library district approximately \$40,500 every election cycle. For these reasons, our library is opposed to this bill in its entirety.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024	
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: RANDY SCHERR		PHONE NUMBER: 573-636-6200	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 101 EAST HIGH			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: REBECCA LEWIS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: director@scl.lib.mo.us	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2024 3:07 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

HB 2498 is problematic in many ways. The first, and most important is that it would take valuable tax dollars away from communities. Stone County Library passed a tax levy in 1948 to establish the library and has operated with that same tax levy for the past 75 years. All of the funding that is received from that tax levy goes back to the community members through library services and operations. If HB 2498 were to be passed it would cost our communities an estimated \$16,600-20,000 per year. As a small, rural library that is the equivalent of a quarter of our book budget each year. In return, board members would be an elected position. Our board members are volunteers who are currently appointed by our county commissioners. Requiring board members to run for election would make it much more difficult to recruit board members and would likely result in empty board seats. In all, this bill seems unnecessary and like a waste of taxpayer money to fix something that isn't broken.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SANDRA HAYNES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mshaynes51442@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 8:42 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Our library board members are appointed by the county elected officials so I feel that requiring the board members to be elected is just over kill. Plus the cost of doing an election for the board members only is not a fiscally responsible use of tax payers money. Our county library would have to take \$20,000 out of the budget to have an election if that's the only thing on the ballot or \$11,000 if there is anything else on the ballot. \$20,000 that can be put to better use for programing for all ages. Services for the elderly. Book, audiobooks and DVD purchases. Computers for people's use. So many ways to use that money over using for an election of people that are appointed by elected officials. Please vote no.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: SHARON LUKE		PHONE NUMBER: 660-783-2335
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: GENTRY COUNTY LIBRARY		TITLE: LIBRARY DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 304 N PARK STREET		
CITY: STANBERRY	STATE: MO	ZIP: 64489
EMAIL: sluke@gentrycountylibrary.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2024 4:48 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The Gentry County Library is a small, county library in northwest Missouri. We serve a remote, rural population and two school districts. When we were informed of HB 2498, we requested fiscal information from the Gentry County Clerk, Sheila Clark on the costs of fulfilling the requirements of HB 2498. In her estimation, the cost of having a recurring election for board members for the library were substantial, between \$13,000 to \$15,000 a year. In 2023 our technology costs were \$13,353.17. Our educational materials cost was \$13,557.15. Our insurance costs were \$22,802.30. Our building maintenance was \$10,220.46. Our utilities and phone costs were \$8,613.72. Our census population is 4,492 people, but as we are the only county library in a five county area, we serve many more people than that. We have monthly Head Start, Pre-school and kindergarten programs attended by 605 children. We sent 1,120 Make and Take packets home with children. Our Summer Reading programs had 2,343 total participants including 70 early literacy programs. We circulated 2,408 books with our Book Mobile and Little Free Library programs. Our total circulation of books, e-books and magazines was 31,935. We provide high speed internet and wireless service and have 5 public computers. Our genealogy resources have been recognized twice as one of the finest in the state. In 2023 we had a staff of five and did all of this and supported the families of five staff members on a 0.30 levy. To comply with this bill would require drastic changes to how and what we provide our patrons, and the children of Gentry County. We are not unique. Many small libraries will not survive this law. We strongly oppose HB 2498 and ask that it not pass out of committee.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: STEPHANIE R BLEDSOE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-683-6748
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSISSIPPI COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT		TITLE: DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: PO BOX 160		
CITY: CHARLESTON		STATE: MO ZIP: 63834
EMAIL: sbledsoe74@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/5/2024 9:31 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

HB2498 will impact Mississippi County Library District and its community both financially and in quality of leadership. HB2498 is a bill to help resolve a high visibility public issue in a few cities/counties without considering the financial burden it will place on our state's smaller city/county libraries, who are having no issues. According to the Mississippi County Clerk to hold an election will cost our library district \$13,241.25, if we are the only ones conducting the election. If our District is sharing the ballot with any other entity, our Clerk estimates the cost being approximately \$6,000. To give you some idea that would be the equivalent to twenty-five percent of our collection budget for the year or one library clerks yearly compensation. In the almost 20 years I have been the Director of this library district we have always had a cohesive Board of Trustees that have been appointed by our County Commissioners who are elected officials. Our County Commissioners are elected to reflect the culture and values of our district. Many outstanding past and present board members would have never been willing to serve on our board if asked to run through a public election. These appointed trustees, from all over our county, are selected and approved based on expressed interest in serving our Districts needs with equal representation for all. The Mississippi County Library District does not deserve to be hit with this expense and the potential of losing quality board members because a political agenda from representatives who are having issues with their own library systems.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: STEVEN CAMPBELL		PHONE NUMBER: 636-266-1621	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SCENIC REGIONAL LIBRARY		TITLE: LIBRARY DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 251 UNION PLAZA DRIVE			
CITY: UNION		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63084
EMAIL: swcampbell@scenicregional.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2024 2:00 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am the director of a three-county public library district approximately 45 minutes from St. Louis. We serve a population of 147,000 with branches in the nine largest communities in our district. I am extremely concerned about the fiscal impact of HB 2498. Even though November elections are already on the calendar, a library would still have to share the cost of being placed on the ballot. I received cost estimates from our three county clerks for placing trustee elections on the November ballot (during a Presidential or midterm election). They have estimated that our share of the cost would be \$27,000 to \$35,000 for Warren County; \$20,000 for Gasconade County, and \$75,000. I was told that these estimates could be low. While our library has a \$6 million operating budget, a biannual expense of \$122,000 to \$130,000 per year will be difficult to absorb. In addition to the negative fiscal impact, I believe that the election of public library trustees would create an unnecessary politicization of public libraries. It would inject political campaigns, campaign fundraising, the involvement of political action committees, and the influence of interest groups into the process of selecting public library trustees. I believe this is unnecessary based on the current system, which has operated successfully for decades; library trustees are appointed by local elected officials. City councils and county commissions already reflect the social, cultural, and political values of their districts, as they should. There are over 150 public libraries in Missouri. To my knowledge, there has been public outcry about the actions of no more than a half dozen of these libraries' governing bodies statewide. Overall, I believe the vast majority of the public in Missouri's library districts are satisfied with their governance. I would not like to see taxpayers statewide burdened with hundreds of thousands of dollars (possibly millions) every other year in election costs to address issues with a small percentage of public libraries. These issues can and should be resolved by city councils and county commissions when they consider library trustees for appointment or reappointment.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Onesuegibson@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2024 8:31 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Please oppose this naked attempt to politicize library administration.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 2498		DATE: 2/7/2024	
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency and Downsizing			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: TACEY LYNN MONROE		PHONE NUMBER: 660-465-7042	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SCOTLAND COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY		TITLE: DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 306 W. MADISON ST.			
CITY: MEMPHIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63555
EMAIL: tmonroe@scotland.lib.mo.us	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2024 5:42 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Scotland County Memorial Library is opposed to HB 2498. The financial burden that this bill would put on libraries if it passes is absurd. We have a 5 member library board made up of respected members of our community who are both themselves, and their families, library patrons and library supporters. They are appointed by our County Commission, who are elected by the same people that our library serves. This is done at ZERO cost to the library and the tax payers of Scotland County. If this bill becomes a law what we now receive for free would be added to the ballot and the election would cost us a minimum of \$3513.15 and could be as much as \$15,039.72 in a Presidential Election year. The cost of this would have to be recovered somewhere else in the budget. Most likely we would be purchasing far fewer books, and the rest would come out of our children's programs. It is the opinion of Scotland County Memorial Library that spending money on something we already get for free doesn't make good fiscal sense. The library already functions under the oversight of our library board. We already have policies in place that give them oversight of materials, employees, events, and building improvements. They meet once a month and receive a report that tells them what is going on in the library, they have to vote before we spend money, and they are given a financial report. Board members serve 4 year terms and there are limits in place for how long they can serve. I have been working here 13 years and to my knowledge there has never been a complaint about the board. If the residents of Scotland County have no complaints and it is good enough for them it should be good enough for the State of Missouri.