



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

***Raised Bill No. 5417***

LCO No. 2657



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:  
(ED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Library material" means books, periodicals or any other sources,  
3 in print or nonprint format, available for reference purposes or to be  
4 circulated for voluntary inquiry by students. "Library material" does not  
5 include materials required as a part of classroom instruction;
- 6 (2) "Remove" means deliberately taking library material out of a  
7 library's collection. "Remove" does not include the process of clearing  
8 such collection of any materials that are no longer useful; and
- 9 (3) "Restrict access" means placing library material in any manner to  
10 limit circulation or accessibility.
- 11 (b) Each local or regional board of education shall provide a reason if  
12 such board removes or restricts access to any library material belonging  
13 to the collection of a school library or media center. No board shall  
14 remove or restrict access to library material for any of the following:

15 (1) Partisan approval or disapproval of any library material by the  
16 board;

17 (2) An author's race, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation  
18 or political or religious views;

19 (3) Personal discomfort, morality or political or religious views of a  
20 member or members of the board;

21 (4) An author's points of view concerning current events, whether  
22 international, national or local;

23 (5) The race, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation or  
24 political or religious views of a protagonist or other characters or as  
25 otherwise represented in the library material; or

26 (6) The content of the library material is related to sexual health and  
27 addresses physical, mental, emotional or social dimensions of human  
28 sexuality, including, but not limited to, puberty, sex and relationships.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To require local and regional boards of education to state a reason for removing or restricting access to public school library materials and prohibiting such boards from removing or restricting access to such materials for certain reasons.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*