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Legislation of Concern in 2025

DECEMBER 20, 2024

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EveryLibrary is monitoring state legislation during the 2025 session that would limit Americans' freedom to read and think for themselves. Of most concern are proposed laws that would allow for criminal prosecution of librarians, educators, higher ed. faculty, and museum professionals.

[see [archived 2024 bill tracking page here \(http://www.everylibrary.org/billtracking2024\)](http://www.everylibrary.org/billtracking2024)]

In 2025, we are paying the most attention to state legislative initiatives in ten categories:

1. bills that would criminalize libraries, educational institutions, and museums (and/or the employees therein) by removing long-standing defenses from prosecution exemptions under obscenity laws and/or expose librarians to civil penalties;
2. bills that change obscenity and "harmful to minors" definitions that preempt established First Amendment rights;
3. bills that would establish book rating systems leading to segregation or expulsion of materials by topic or viewpoint;
4. bills that mandate restrictive library policies, esp. prescribing collection development or materials challenge policies;
5. bills that would limit access to school library databases;
6. bills that create onerous parental control/notification requirements that lead to segregated materials or limit free speech;
7. bills that limit or outlaw the teaching of "divisive concepts";
8. bills that lead to defunding or closure of libraries or politicization of library boards.
9. bills that limit funding or participation in professional library associations or drop accreditation requirements for professional librarians.

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10. bills that seek to de-professionalize librarianship through loosening or elimination of licensing/certification requirements

On a positive note, we are also tracking "right to read" bills that offer protections to libraries/librarians, as well as other positive bills.

See our Pro-Library Bill Tracking Page
(<https://www.everylibrary.org/positivebills>)

We do more than monitor bills - we proactively work with local partners to oppose bad legislation and promote good legislation, and support effective advocacy at hyper-local levels.

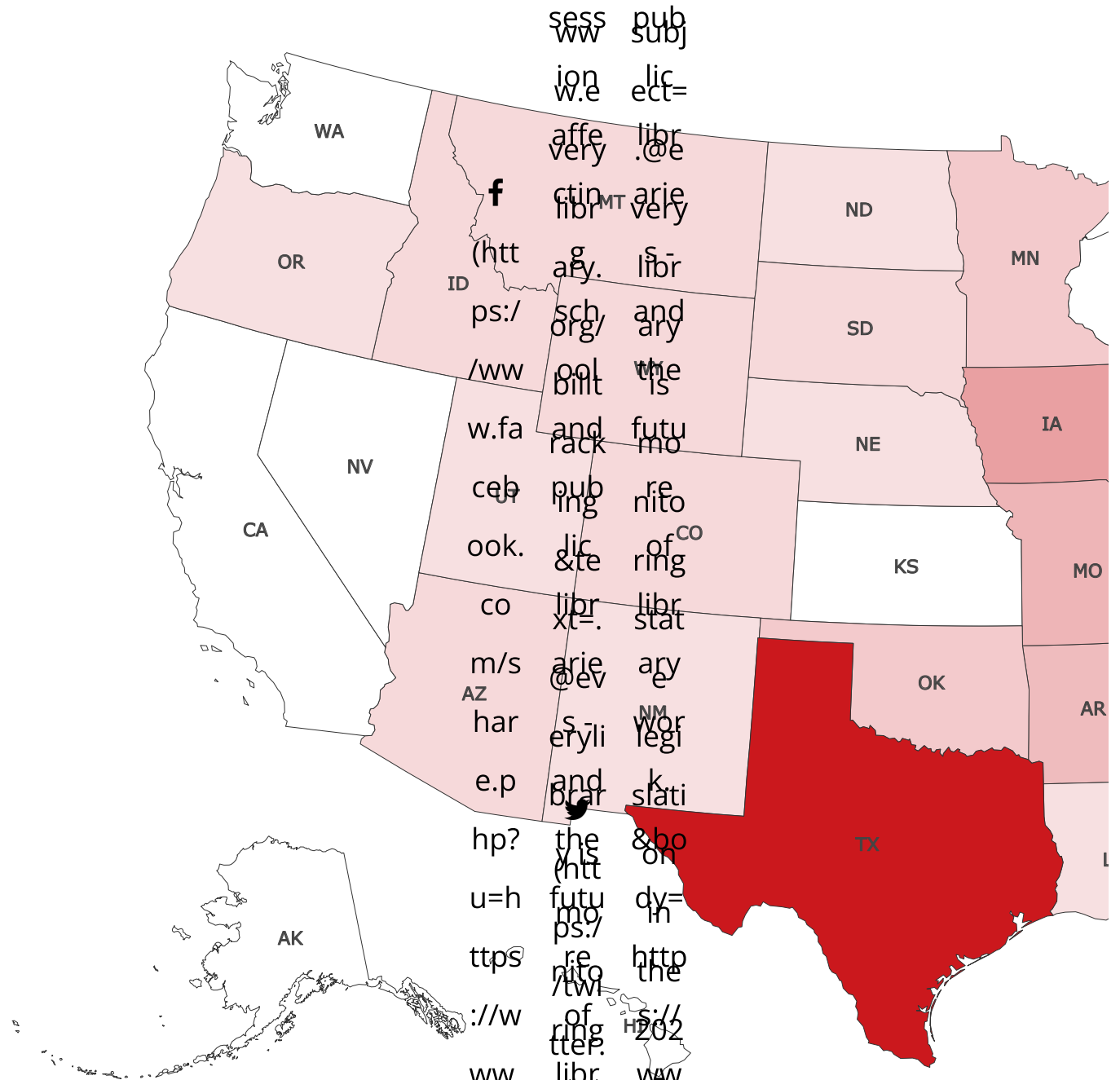
EveryLibrary is an active and engaged partner with over 100 grassroots groups, many state library associations, and other coalition partners, helping them create and field effective legislative advocacy strategies. We provide partners with free access to a suite of digital advocacy tools including FightForTheFirst.org (<http://www.FightForTheFirst.org>), our [Action.EveryLibrary.Org](https://action.everylibrary.org/) (<https://action.everylibrary.org/>) site, and [SaveSchoolLibrarians.org](http://saveschoollibrarians.org/) (<http://saveschoollibrarians.org/>). If you would like to talk about how EveryLibrary can assist your state library association or advocacy group, please [contact our team today](https://www.everylibrary.org/contact) (<https://www.everylibrary.org/contact>).

2025 Legislation of Concern

(Note: includes live bills from 2024 for states with two-year sessions)

Click on State to see bill information and "Take Action" links

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Choose a state

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Bills (most recent first)

US HR4016 - Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2026 (Introduced)
(<https://www.billtrack50.com/billdetail/1899321>)

A BILL Making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

07/18/2025: The Clerk was authorized to correct section numbers, punctuation, and cross references, an...

NH HB324 - Relative to prohibiting obscene, or harmful sexual materials in schools. (Vetoed)
(<https://www.billtrack50.com/billdetail/1767197>)

This bill prohibits material that is obscene or harmful to minors in schools and creates a procedure for removal and cause of action.

07/17/2025: Vetoed by Governor Ayotte 07/15/2025

NH HB273 - Relative to a parent's access to their minor child's library records. (Passed)
(<https://www.billtrack50.com/billdetail/1765642>)

This bill allows parents to access all of their minor child's library records.

07/14/2025: Enrolled (in recess of) 06/26/2025 House Journal 18

OR SB212 - Relating to the rating of library materials. (Dead)
(<https://www.billtrack50.com/billdetail/1775941>)

The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards. Digest: The Act would set up a ratings system for library materials based on the age of young library patrons and restrict access as guided...

06/27/2025: In committee upon adjournment.

TX HB100 - Relating to the purchase, adoption, and use of instructional materials by public schools. (Signed/Enacted/Adopted)
(<https://www.billtrack50.com/billdetail/1839343>)

AN ACT relating to the purchase, adoption, and use of instructional materials by public schools.

06/20/2025: Effective immediately

TX SB13 - Relating to a school district's library materials and catalog, the establishment

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