

Bill Summary
1st Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 397
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Author:	Sen. Hamilton
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Bill Analysis

SB 397 requires school district boards of education and governing bodies of charter schools and public libraries to appoint a committee by September 1, 2023, to conduct an inventory of print and nonprint materials and media located in their libraries. It requires the inventory to be completed by July 1, 2024, and directs the materials and media to be given the designations of “elementary,” “junior high,” “under 16,” and “juniors and seniors” based on their content. It directs school districts and charter schools beginning July 1, 2024, to include only materials and media with certain designations in certain school libraries. The measure directs materials and media designated as “juniors and seniors” to be placed in a section of the library only accessible to librarians, teachers, and other school staff, and a student can only access the material or media with written consent from a parent or legal guardian. The bill directs public libraries beginning July 1, 2024, to place the materials and media designated “juniors and seniors” in a section of the library only accessible to staff, and such material and media are only accessible to an individual under the age of 18 with written consent from a parent or legal guardian. Beginning July 1, 2024, it prohibits school district and charter school libraries and public libraries from including content that the average person aged 18 or older applying contemporary community standards would find has a predominant tendency to appeal to a prurient interest in sex.

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