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**HOUSE BILL 2399**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2024 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Walsh and Jacobsen

Read first time 01/16/24. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring formal complaint systems for public  
2 school libraries; adding a new section to chapter 28A.320 RCW; and  
3 creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that too many caring  
6 parents and family members have been unfairly vilified for speaking  
7 up when their minor children are exposed to age-inappropriate  
8 materials at school or in public libraries. Article 1, section 11, of  
9 the Washington state Constitution recognizes "absolute freedom of  
10 conscience." The legislature intends to assure that parents and  
11 guardians of minor children can exercise their freedom of conscience  
12 when they see their children exposed to inappropriate media content  
13 or other materials at taxpayer-funded schools.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.320  
15 RCW to read as follows:

16 On or before September 1, 2024, each school district board of  
17 directors shall provide a system for receiving, considering, and  
18 acting upon written complaints about library materials in one or more  
19 schools of the district. The systems required by this section must  
20 provide that final decisions regarding the removal or retention of

1 library materials in response to a written complaint be made only by  
2 the school district board of directors.

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