

**House File 521 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 521  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 274)

(COMPANION TO SF 235 BY SALMON)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to obscenity exemptions for public libraries and  
2 educational institutions.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. REPEAL. Section 728.7, Code 2025, is repealed.

2 EXPLANATION

3 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
4 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

5 This bill repeals Code section 728.7, which relates to  
6 obscenity exemptions for public libraries and educational  
7 institutions.

8 Code section 728.7 currently provides that nothing in Code  
9 chapter 728 (obscenity) prohibits the use of appropriate material  
10 for educational purposes in any accredited school, any public  
11 library, or in any educational program in which a minor is  
12 participating. Code section 728.7 further provides that Code  
13 chapter 728 does not prohibit the attendance of minors at an  
14 exhibition or display of art works or the use of any materials  
15 in any public library.

16 Code section 728.1 defines "obscene material", which includes  
17 material the average person, taking the material as a whole and  
18 applying contemporary community standards with respect to what is  
19 suitable material for minors, would find appeals to the prurient  
20 interest and is patently offensive; and the material, taken as a  
21 whole, lacks serious literary, scientific, political, or artistic  
22 value.