103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

SB1812

Introduced 2/9/2023, by Sen. Mike Simmons

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

50 ILCS 105/4.2 new

Amends the Public Officer Prohibited Activities Act. Provides that a public officer, employee, board, or representative of a governmental unit may not ban or otherwise prohibit a book from being available for reading or circulation by members of the public in a library, school, or other publicly funded facility. Provides that the provisions do not restrict the ability to limit books in schools or in another publicly funded facility based upon the age and development level of persons who will have access to those books. Limits the concurrent exercise of home rule powers.

LRB103 28287 AWJ 54666 b

SB1812

AN ACT concerning local government.

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2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Public Officer Prohibited Activities Act is
amended by adding Section 4.2 as follows:

6 (50 ILCS 105/4.2 new)

7 <u>Sec. 4.2. Book banning prohibited.</u>

8 <u>(a) As used in this Section, "governmental unit" means a</u> 9 <u>unit of local government or school district.</u>

10 <u>(b) A public officer, employee, board, or other</u> 11 <u>representative of a governmental unit may not ban or otherwise</u> 12 <u>prohibit a book from being available for reading or</u> 13 <u>circulation by members of the public in a library, school, or</u> 14 <u>other publicly funded facility.</u>

15 (c) This Section does not restrict the ability to limit 16 books in schools or another publicly funded facility based 17 upon the age and development level of persons who will have 18 access to those books.

19 (d) A home rule unit may not regulate books in a manner 20 inconsistent with this Section. This Section is a limitation 21 under subsection (i) of Section 6 of Article VII of the 22 Illinois Constitution on the concurrent exercise by home rule 23 units of powers and functions exercised by the State.