

Education (General Provisions) Amendment Bill 2025

Submission No: 8

Submitted by: [REDACTED]

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Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

Thank you for this submission. I am currently homeschooling three children - all of whom will benefit from the success of this submission. My children are born 1 July, 1 August and 7 September - so all three of them will be 18 in their year 12 equivalent year. All of my children began their schooling in the state school system. We are currently traveling, hence the original decision to home school. However, due to such a positive home schooling experience, and realising the opportunities for early university entry and more, we have decided to home school them until the completion of high school. Due to my children's dates of birth, they were unable to start primary school until they were all approximately 5 and a half years old. I would have had to apply for an exemption if I'd wanted them to start the year before - which I considered for my 1 July baby due to her being born literally 1 day after the 30 June cut off. All three of my children, had they started in the state school system, would have simply progressed normally through until year 12 completion at 18.5 years of age without question. They would have received 13 years of education. None of them repeated a year - they simply started school as per Queensland requirements. I had presumed it would be exactly the same under HEU - just as simple transfer from state school to home va school, then smooth sailing through until year 12 completion at 18.5 years old. However, last year I became aware that, under the current HEU set up, I would only be able to home school them until completion of year 11. I was horrified to think that all three of my children could be forced to stop their education pursuits in year 12 due to their age - yet as a parent, I was forced to enroll them at that age in the state school system. So without the success of this current submission, my choice to home school my children could potentially mean they are only entitled to 12 years rather than 13 years of education. Or alternatively, I will have to disrupt their learning and place them back in the state school system for year 12 (or realistically both year 11 and 12 as many of the assessments for two years are interconnected). As such, I feel that the success of this submission is essential to ensure that home schooled children are offered the same 13 years of access to education that their state schooled peers are. Both systems should mirror one another in terms of access ages. Before realising that there was a difference, as a main schooling parent transferring to HEU, I had presumed that the timeframe/upper age limits of the HEU and the Queensland Department of Education were one and the same. Access for our children to education should be the same no matter whether they are in the state school or home school system. Sincerest thanks for ensuring fair access for my children to be educated until year 12 whilst being registered with the HEU.