

Education (General Provisions) Amendment Bill 2025

Submission No:	17
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Attachments:	See attachment
Submitter Comments:	

I am writing in support of the following amendment:

Clause 10 Amendment of s 229A (Provisional registration or registration ends on 31 December in year child turns 17 years)

(1) Section 229A, heading—

omit, insert—

229A When provisional registration or registration ends in relation to child's age

(2) Section 229A(1), '17 years'—

omit, insert—

18 years

My daughter has ASD {Autism Spectrum Disorder - high functioning} and severe OCD {Obsessive – Compulsive Disorder} and severe BDD {Body Dysmorphic Disorder}.

During the enforced period of home schooling during covid in 2020 I took long service leave to help her and she did so well, improving in her academic work and emotional wellbeing, that I decided to continue with homeschooling right up until the present.

Currently my daughter is completing term 1 of year 12 and turned 17 in February. The last semester of the previous year and the first semester of this year has been particularly difficult. She has endured a worsening of her mental health and therefore needed changes to her medication and in getting the dose correct. This has affected her ability to do her schoolwork up to a particular standard. Because there is an element of just-right or perfectionism in her mental health conditions this stress leads to anxiety and depression which then triggers the OCD which causes more of the same.

The outcome is that progress has been slow. The work that she finishes is up to standard, but we are falling further and further behind. Of the 10 weeks of this term probably only 5 have been productive. I mentioned to her the possibility of repeating year 12 which she wasn't keen to do but over time she came to the realization that it was necessary. I then emailed the Qld department of homeschooling to ask if that was possible and they said no, as 17 is the cut off for registration. This didn't seem fair as if she was at regular school she would have been able to repeat year 12.

So that is why I am writing to support the amendment to change the registration year to 18 instead of 17 and hope to see this come into law before the end of this year so that my daughter can do another year of school and complete her studies which she ultimately enjoys and views as necessary to take with her into the future.