

Education (General Provisions) Amendment Bill 2025

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Submitter Comments:

The Bill amends the EGPA to enhance the regulation of home education by extending the age

eligibility of a student for home education registration by one year, to 31 December in the year the student turns 18. I wish to write my personal support with this change. I have been writing to Education Ministers and my local MP for sometime requesting this change for 2 of the 4 of my children and their peers. There are many school-based opportunities available to high school students with other providers outside ACARA. They can participate in traineeships, apprenticeships, Vocational Education and Training with RTOs or TAFE at School, and Uni at School etc. These courses are provided at a significantly reduced price or free if an enrolled secondary student. Students can participate in school-based competitions and challenges as home educating students. This is an important opportunity as these activities are designed to challenge students. For example, STEM, geography, and arts competitions. They build skills and give recognition that can be included in a student portfolio and resume. HEU students can participate in District and Regional Sports, which is a fantastic opportunity for talented children to compete and socialise with peers. Financial support - HEU seniors/families can continue to receive Centrelink payments including Assistance for Isolated Children allowance (AIC) and Family Tax to support the cost of education and help with the loss of parental income for home educators. HEU secondary students are also eligible for the Textbook and Resource Allowance (TRA) to assist with costs. Lastly, student concessions for transport and events. I have also attached my name to a submission from a group of HEEG (Home Education Expert Group) members. As a rural home educator, I know how this impacts our regional students who choose home education over boarding school and distance education for valid reasons.