

Education (General Provisions) (Helping Families with School Costs) Amendment Bill 2023

Submission No: 10
Submitted by: Tina Patterson
Publication: Making the submission and your name public

Attachments:

Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee Members, You are in a very powerful position right now, with the potential to have far reaching consequences for the future of our young Queenslanders and this State. During your deliberations, please remember that it is the basic right of every single child in this state to have equitable access to a world class education, regardless of their background or circumstances. Our public schools are so woefully underfunded that we now find ourselves into a situation where an excellent education is only available to those who can afford it. This is just wrong. Just an extra \$1.7B would bring our funding up to where it should be. We can afford this - we are a very wealthy state sitting on a surplus of \$12B. We can't not afford it - educated people are healthier, live longer and are incarcerated less. Early investment in high quality education saves the public purse in the long term. Making sure that access is equitable casts the net very wide - who knows which child may grow up to solve the challenge of nuclear fusion and fix the energy crisis? An excellent education can only happen when teachers are valued and supported. Teaching as a profession needs to attract the cream of our high-school graduates - remuneration and conditions must change in order for this to happen. Look to Norway - be bold and visionary. Education changes lives. We CAN afford this.