

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

**Submission No:** 15  
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### Attachments:

### Submitter Comments:

Every child deserves access to a quality education. As a society we should be working towards equality and the flattest class structure possible. That many public schools are critically underfunded means that countless children are being denied that access. This of course contributes to entrenched disadvantage and ultimately leaves our society worse off. But it's also not even a matter of spreading a little a long way; vast sums of public money are given to private schools. This is the antithesis of flattening class. We could achieve so much more with that money. The difference it would make in a regional school versus in an elite private school is profound. I have worked in a variety of schools, I remember visiting a remote school in the Atherton tablelands and recall distinctly how the students were so excited, enthralled and probably felt valued by the visit. This was a marginalised community, with few employment opportunities, a plague of drug addictions and the associated social issues that accompany those things. But the kids still were capable of awe. Still had dreams. We should create the best conditions to protect that awe, those dreams. We should do better by them, in order to break the cycles that doom these places. We should create the most equity we can, and that begins with education. Resources that children need should be provided by the tax payer in public schools; whether that's textbooks, computers, uniforms, stationery or equipment. Public money should not feather the nests of those that already have an abundance, those that choose private schooling. Thank you