Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No:	18
Submitted by:	Aleesha Curran
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Submitter Comments:

To all the Committee members,

I hope this email finds you well. My name is Aleesha Curran and I am writing to you with my concerns regarding the proposed amendments to the education bill that has recently been presented to parliament. As a home educating parent, I do not support some of these changes that have been introduced and I am worried about the impact that they will have on my family and the homeschooling community.

I am particularly concerned about the proposal that every homeschooling family needs to follow the Australian Curriculum and I don't agree that it is necessary to obtain a high quality education. I would like to testify and share that my husband was homeschooled by his mum and they did not follow the Australian Curriculum. He is a fully qualified childcare educator, he currently works in IT and is about to finish his Bachelor of Architecture at Griffith University, Gold Coast. He's smart and intelligent.

If the expectation for every homeschool family is to follow the Australian Curriculum, it puts unnecessary pressure/stress on parents and their children. (One of many reasons) It takes away the joy and excitement for families to be able to support their children in pursuing their own interests. Not every child is the same and parents are, for many reason choosing to homeschool their children to suit their childrens needs with tailored subjects and lessons that suit each individual child. It is then unreasonable and unfair to expect homeschooling families (parents who have sacrificed their careers, time, resources and money) to then revert back to what is being offered in traditional school.

I'm also concerned that the legislation has been introduced without proper consultation with current homeschooling families and I hope that you will take my feedback into consideration. For education to be inclusive of all students, I believe it is important to understand the reasoning behind the education decisions of the families who struggle the most to fit into mainstream education.

The homeschooling community already access ACARA as needed, but we need to be given the freedom to go beyond this, it is limiting for many families to be expected to just follow the Australian Curriculum. There is not a 'one way' to educate a child.

Have you considered the reasons as to 'Why?' many families are choosing to homeschool in the first place?

Is there something that you can do to better support homeschooling families?

Will you please help us and be a voice for the homeschooling community?

Please have a look at the post (linked below) from Di Farmer MP and read all the comments (and the reasons) of the upset and frustrated parents, teachers and students, all voicing their disapproval of this proposal. Please HELP us!!

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns. It is my hope that, going forward, this legislation can suit the needs of all students across Queensland. I look forward to hearing your response about this important issue.

Sincerely,

Aleesha Curran

