

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: Feedback regarding the State Labor Government's Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill.
Date: Monday, 11 March 2024 3:17:15 PM

Dear Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee,

My name is Erin Toth, and I am a parent of four children who are currently registered with the Queensland Home Education Unit.

I have been successfully home educating my four Queensland children aged 15, 10, 8 and 7 since August 2021. My 15 year old is also in the process of completing her Certificate IV in Dance Teaching and Management (commenced mid 2023) via an RTO.

Having experienced the Australian Curriculum (as delivered in both Primary and Secondary State schools) and witnessed the results of this approach in educating my four children, I fail to see how this one size fits all approach can be deemed a “high quality education” for all Queensland children.

During their time at school (in the care of lovely teachers and with no bullying or behavioural concerns) - and with all appropriate diagnoses, reports, recommendations and IEP plans in place - my dyslexic children fell behind, and my neurodivergent children became so anxious (as a result of masking all day) that they struggled to function.

They had perfect attendance until they simply couldn't do it anymore. They broke down. The curriculum was surpassing them and they were afraid, isolated, embarrassed and exhausted.

They were spending non-school hours in recovery from trying SO hard all day; fatigued and lacking energy for any extra curricular activities. They cried each day that they were exhausted and scared of getting in trouble for not understanding content. They were reprimanded for not packing up promptly when an activity was piquing their interest to the point they wanted to explore further.

Since registering them with the HEU I have witnessed so much progress in them. They all GREW - literally 3 clothing sizes in a 6 month period - and they have all progressed wonderfully both academically, but more importantly - on a personal level. They are confident, social, active, inquisitive, driven, creative, persistent, and happy.

They have time and energy to play and dance, to take arts classes and learn to sing. They spend their days in the company of trusted adults who invest hours and hours of their time into sharing their knowledge. They are absolutely thriving.

Through registration with the HEU I have allowed them time and space to find their own preferred learning styles, and explored various options for them to overcome challenges they face due to their disabilities.

Removing the constraints of a designated curriculum has opened the doors to a high quality education for my children and many others.

Please take the time to learn more about home education, and the various approaches parents are choosing to take, to support our individual children.

Thank you,

Erin Toth

