Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitted by:	Nicole Pace
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From:	
To:	Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee
Subject:	Proposed legislation for education (home schooling)
Date:	Monday, 11 March 2024 8:12:54 PM

Please submit this to the Department of Education, Employment, Training and Skills Commitee in response to the proposed changes to home education legislation.

I am writing to express my concern about some of the proposed changes to the legislation. I am currently homeschooling my children and these changes will serve to make more work for home educating families and will not make any real difference to learning outcomes for children who are using home education. I speak as an experienced homeschooler and teacher. My top three concerns are as follows.

- Everyone will be required to plan for the Australian Curriculum. This is so limiting. What if we would like to use the best resources from around the world? ACARA is not the best curriculum available. If the goal is to ensure a high level of education for Australian children we should be able to be flexible in choosing resources. Schools aren't able to use this flexibility due to the logistics mass educating so many children, but we can provide much more differentiation for our children because education is one on one. So long as we prove we deliver a high quality education the curriculum shouldn't matter. We're providing a different kind on INDIVIDULISED education and need different INDIVIDUALISED systems for monitoring education. We already have a systems that allows us to report and plan in a flexible way. Don't make this process unnecessarily long as it creates more pointless work for us and for the staff at HEU who need to read our plans and reports. Schools talk endlessly about how they can better achieve "differentiation". Homeschooling families do this so well - why block us from providing this for our kids. We operate more like children on an IEP plan - tending to their individual needs. We should have this option.
- 2. <u>The consulation process for this hasn't been fair.</u> Find out more about home education before making these changes. Do some more research and I believe you'll find many home education students are thriving and even outperforming schooled children. I believe many people in the home schooling community have only just found out about this new change and we weren't properly consulted.
- 3. Asking for reporting outside of the time of registration. How can that be fair?

I hope you reconsider these changes and instead perhaps do some further research into what we actually do as homeschoolers.

Nicole Pace