

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 58
Submitted by: Melissa Miller
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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: RE: Proposed Education legislation changes
Date: Wednesday, 13 March 2024 10:43:10 AM

Committee Secretary
Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the proposed Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024, in particular Clause 68 and the inclusion of Section 7(da).

Over the past 2 years as a homeschooling parent, I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact that individualised learning has had on my child's education and overall well-being, especially compared to their time at school both in a private and public education environments.

Reverting to a rigid, one-size-fits-all learning plan as the mandated Australian Curriculum (the “approved education and training program”) will be met with disinterest and hence stifle their curiosity, love of learning and academic progress.

As a side issue, the expected increase in reporting requirements will not only take away valuable education time from my child, but also increase the workload of the Home Education Unit. Where is the benefit of this change? Will homeschooling parents be eligible for compensation for the time and resources needed to adhere to the reporting requirements?

In regard to Section 7(da), I am a bit perplexed to read that only “home education [...] should be provided in a way that – (i) is in the best interest [...] and (ii) ensures [...] a high-quality education.”

Who defines “best interest” or “high-quality education”?

My concern is that this addition to the Act can easily be misused by individuals or authorities to stop families from choosing to home educate their children. Is this the reason why this addition only applies to home education, but not for “the State, parents, teachers, school communities and non-government entities”?

The increased uptake in homeschooling in Queensland is evidence that the curriculum either current or proposed is not flexible enough to allow children with different abilities and learning styles to flourish.

The proposed legislation raises several pressing concerns that I believe need to be addressed.

Firstly, The Australian Curriculum is an incredibly complex document that has been tailored to educate children in schools. Many schools employ curriculum specialists to interpret and implement this document.

Moreover, I am worried about the lack of transparency and public consultation surrounding these changes. As a stakeholder in our education system, I believe it is imperative for the voices of educators, parents, students, and community members to be heard and considered in any decision-making process that impacts our schools.

In light of these concerns, I urge you to carefully reconsider the proposed education legislation and to prioritise the best interests of our students, teachers, and schools. I implore you to advocate for a more inclusive and collaborative approach to policymaking that values input from all stakeholders and ensures the integrity and quality of our education system.

In my opinion, by allowing children to be taught differently from the mainstream, fostering their interests and talents, home schooling provides a pathway for Australia to stay creative, innovative and competitive in an ever changing world.

I urge you to consider my concerns and remove Section 7(da) and the requirement to follow an “approved education and training program” in Clause 68.

Thank you,

Melissa Miller

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