## Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From:

Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee

Subject: Advocating for Homeschooling

Date: Monday, 11 March 2024 12:05:21 PM

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

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed changes in homeschooling legislation, particularly the requirement to follow a specific curriculum. As a homeschooling parent, I firmly believe that these changes would undermine the very reasons why many families, including mine, have chosen homeschooling as the preferred mode of education for our children.

As the parent who has the primary responsibility for overseeing our daughter's education, I have put my career on the backburner and sustained an ongoing financial loss that will extend over many years. I did this willingly after extensive research into all of the educational options available to our daughter. This consisted of visits to prospective schools (including some that would have required a relocation), talking to educators and research into topics including the history of education and how children's brains learn best.

I continue to do it because I firmly believe that homeschooling is in my daughter's best interest and is the prime alternative that affords her an education that will equip her to be a lifelong learner and a valuable participant in her community in the future. She is now almost eight, has passions that she has been able to dive deeply into, is active within our homeschooling community and the wider community, and loves her life. Every day, as I see the many opportunities that she has for personal growth and learning in a way that best suits her, I am grateful for the path that we have chosen. This would be greatly hindered by the imposition of

a mandated curriculum. The essence of homeschooling lies in the freedom it affords children to learn in a manner that aligns with their individual interests, abilities, and learning styles.

These proposed changes would not only undermine the fundamental principles of homeschooling but also limit my child's ability to learn and grow in a way that honours her individuality and creativity. As a homeschooling parent deeply invested in my child's education, I urge the committee to reconsider these restrictive measures and instead focus on supporting families in providing a rich and diverse educational experience tailored to the needs of each child.

Thank you for considering my concerns, please reply and let me know how they are going to be addressed.

Sincerely,

Laura Causer