

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

**Submission No:** 108  
**Submitted by:** Tintinara Henry  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

I am writing to you with my concerns regarding the proposed amendments to the education bill that has recently been presented to parliament. It is important for Indigenous parents like me to have the freedom to educate our children in a way that honors our culture and traditions. The Australian Curriculum does not reflect the values and teachings that are important to us as First Nations people. By homeschooling, we are able to instill in our children a deep connection to their heritage and a strong sense of identity. Due to my children's diverse heritage, which includes Kabi Kabi, Gooreng Gooreng, and Murray Island, they are learning important languages that are not part of the Australian Curriculum. It is crucial for them to learn their Aboriginal and Torres Strait languages rather than the languages chosen by the Australian Curriculum, as these are some of the First Nations languages that are endangered and need to be preserved and revitalized. I believe that Article 14, Section 1 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) supports our right to preserve and transmit our cultural teachings to future generations. It is crucial for our children to have a strong foundation in their Indigenous heritage so that they can navigate the complexities of the modern world while maintaining a strong sense of self. Homeschooling provides a unique environment for personalized learning and development, where my four children and I engage in multi-age learning co-ops and group activities within the home school community. We benefit from diverse instruction and expertise shared by parents, community members, and professionals, which often ignites new interests and allows for in-depth exploration of various subjects. Imposing the Australian Curriculum could restrict our flexible learning approach, hindering the formation of multi-age groups and limiting the exploration of topics based on individual interests rather than predetermined year levels. I hope that the government will recognize and respect the rights of First Nations parents to educate their children in a way that reflects their unique cultural heritage. It is essential for the preservation and continuation of our traditions and languages for generations to come. I also hope that this legislation can suit the needs of all students across Queensland.