

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitter Comments:

I was home schooled in a traditional manner (without the use of an approved program) during all of my primary school years, and up until grade 10, which was when I began distance education. Up until such time I did not use a program consistent with an approved education or training facility. Because of the freedom to study this way mum created numerous 'equine' related tasks catered to my interest and learning, whilst helping me get a head start within the industry. For example, I learned the entire anatomy of the horse, inside and out as a science subject! I wrote persuasive essays relating to issues within the pony club system and delved into the research behind particular supplements fed to horses. I also had the freedom to ride my horses during normal school hours and undertake work experience with our farrier. Today, I operate as a sole trader through ACEHP (Australian Certified Equine Hoof Practitioners) servicing my local community as a barefoot hoof trimmer. In order to operate within this profession, you require a 'leg up' from other professionals within the industry. If not given the opportunity to learn all I could in this field during my school years, this advantage would not have come my way at such a young age. In the future and if this bill passes, will home educated children, regardless of their passion be given similar opportunities as myself?