

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

**Submission No:** 194  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
**Publication:** Making the submission public but withholding your name  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

I am writing to you regarding the proposed education legislation that was introduced to the Queensland parliament on the 6th of March 2024.  
[https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/whole/html/bill.first/bill-2022-052?fbclid=IwAR1hZpIH9dxzn3QS7Jab-G4XshmLcX1MbiTjWMn\\_KrhFYb67bq15CvrMgg](https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/whole/html/bill.first/bill-2022-052?fbclid=IwAR1hZpIH9dxzn3QS7Jab-G4XshmLcX1MbiTjWMn_KrhFYb67bq15CvrMgg)Our family has been homeschooling in Queensland since 2018. After 6 months in a private school and thorough research into our educational options, homeschooling was the best choice for our children. We have been very happy with this decision and our children have thrived with the flexibility that homeschooling provides. I have three specific concerns regarding the proposed legislation – the requirement to plan to the Australian Curriculum, the requirement to report across all areas of the Australian Curriculum, and the inadequate definition of key phrases in the document. Planning against the Australian Curriculum. The Australian Curriculum is designed to be delivered to large classrooms of children, while useful as a guide, it is less suitable for a tailored education setting where there is ample resources and time available for each student. The proposed legislation seems to be focused on curriculum at all costs, regardless of student outcomes. With the vast swathe of educational resources available today it seems ridiculous to narrow students learning options to a shallow, standardized curriculum. Our children are able to deeply explore their subjects of interest, much more than a set curriculum allows. They are able to move through their work at their own pace, which ensures they have a good understanding of concepts and also means boredom is not an issue. The legislation changes proposed would enforce adherence to the national curriculum, which severely narrows the scope and depth of potential learning areas for children. This element of the legislation also has the potential to limit the opportunity for more senior students to pursue higher education options at a younger age than their mainstream school colleagues. Reporting against the Australian Curriculum. This legislation will make it more onerous for homeschooling parents for reporting purposes, which is time that could be better spent with our children. I would expect that there would be a commensurate increase in workload for Home Education Unit (HEU) staff who are processing these reports. I would be curious to know if this change in legislation will be accompanied by a review in to appropriate resourcing for the HEU. Wording of the legislation There is wording in this legislation that is also very concerning. Who would define what is “in the best interests of the child.”? What defines “a high-quality education”? There are many students currently in school who are being badly failed by the system, yet they would be considered as having a “high-quality education” simply by attending school, regardless of their academic outcomes. Lack of clarity around these terms, and lack of information on who the deciding body will be, is very unsettling for the home education community. I thank you for your careful consideration of this matter as you think through the consequences of the proposed changes for the families who make up our home education community.