Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No:	228
Submitted by:	Claire Murray
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From:	
То:	Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee
Cc:	Nanango Electorate Office
Subject:	Concerns Regarding Proposed Changes to Homeschooling Legislation
Date:	Monday, 11 March 2024 5:13:07 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I wish to express my concerns regarding the current proposed changes to homeschooling legislation. I have been a homeschooling parent for the past 20 years and have successfully home educated six children, three of whom are now employed full-time and three who are still being home educated. I firmly believe that parents must have a choice in how their children are educated and that 'one size does not fit all' when it comes to education. Each child is an individual, who a parent knows better than anyone else, and therefore parents should have the choice to decide how their child is educated. Children are the future of our nation and deserve to be educated in a way that helps them reach their full potential.

I have concerns regarding definitions in the proposed bill such as 'choosing a suitable educational environment' and 'be consistent with'. These are very subjective definitions that have the potential to be misinterpreted and reduce parental choice. Additionally, the proposed changes may negatively affect the function of the HEU in supporting parents to provide an individualised and flexible learning program for their child, based on their child's needs. Requirements on planning and reporting to the Australian National Curriculum, while it sounds inclusive, actually removes choice from parents. For these reasons, I would like to raise my concerns about the current proposed legislation changes that will affect homeschooling.

My contact details are as follows:

Claire Murray

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Claire Murray