

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

**Submission No:** 288  
**Submitted by:** Richard Waters  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

Dear Parliament, I do not approve of the proposed outcomes of this bill. I think that applying the entire broad and shallow one size fits all curriculum of the public schooling system to those who choose to homeschool their families is unwise, and would have many detrimental effects to children, families and over the long term, the greater community as a whole. My wife has been a primary teacher in the public system for 10 years, and now that we have 3 young children of our own we are choosing to homeschool them. It is our experience with the existing state curriculum, it is too broad and shallow to enable many children to learn as best they can. It does not allow for the flexibility that the parents of a child in a home environment can provide, be it through catering teaching styles towards the different needs of boys and girls, or the extra care and attention needed by a neurodivergent child. I fear that forcing home schoolers to apply the standard state school system to their families ignores the needs of many families and children and would cause many to be left behind. If this system was enforced on home schooling families it would have greater effects on our community as a whole as well. Both financially and morally. Families who choose to home school often choose to do so by opting to only have a single income, while one parent stays home with the children, this is already a difficult financial position to be in given our current situation with recent inflation and inproportionate wage growth. Enforcing this proposed change would cause many to say it is no longer a viable curriculum for their families and make the decision to chose a private school, requiring a second income to the household. In the long term this will further apply pressure on families to need a second income to survive as the increase in family incomes will drive inflation. Continuing the ongoing spiral of parents not having the time to dedicate to raising and training their children, leading to the continual break down of families and the general socio-economic status of our community. I think it is important that the QLD parliament understands that those in the state who are choosing to homeschool, are not doing so out of a rejection of formal education and social engagement. But rather are doing so because they genuinely want to give their children the best education they can, and for their families they believe the best environment for their families and children is in the home, under the close, caring, flexible and available guidance of parents alongside other families educating their children at home. Sincerely, Richard Waters