

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

**Submission No:** 307  
**Submitted by:** Tiphanie Stephens  
**Publication:**  
**Attachments:** No attachment  
**Submitter Comments:**

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Oppose the changes to the Education Act  
**Date:** Friday, 15 March 2024 7:25:47 AM

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Dear Committee Members,

As a homeschooling parent of a child with several disabilities, I am deeply disappointed by the proposed changes to homeschooling legislation. For many children with disabilities and neurodivergences, homeschooling is not just a choice but a necessity—an opportunity to create an environment where they can thrive at their own pace and in their own unique way.

It is disheartening to see a focus on making homeschooling more rigid rather than addressing the systemic barriers that prevent many children with disabilities from accessing quality education in mainstream schools. Instead of imposing restrictive measures on homeschooling families, the committee's efforts would be better directed towards making mainstream schools more accessible and inclusive for all students, regardless of their abilities or differences.

Children with disabilities often face significant challenges in traditional school settings, where rigid structures and standardized approaches may not accommodate their diverse needs.

Homeschooling provides a lifeline for these children, offering the flexibility and personalised support they require to learn and grow in a safe and nurturing environment.

Rather than limiting the options available to families, we should be working to ensure that all children have access to a range of educational opportunities that meet their individual needs and preferences. This includes advocating for greater resources and support for inclusive education practices within mainstream schools, as well as providing alternative options like homeschooling for those who require a more tailored approach.

In conclusion, I urge the committee to reconsider its approach to homeschooling legislation and to prioritize the needs of children with disabilities and neurodivergences.

Thank you for considering my perspective.

Sincerely,  
Tiphonie Stephens

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Submission Against proposed changes.  
**Date:** Tuesday, 19 March 2024 11:33:57 AM

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Dear Committee Members

I do NOT approve of the proposed changes to the Education Act.

As a parent of a child with significant learning delays, I do not want to plan or report to the Australian curriculum, or any other curriculum "approved" by ACARA.

I do not want to be forced to demonstrate progress in all subjects every year because we do not cover all subjects every year.

I do not agree to the guiding principle that homeschooling must be proven to be in the best interests of the child, because we as parents are the ones who make that decision, not the Government.

My child was removed from school in Grade 6, because my child would not be able to conform to the standard curriculum in high school, and there was no option to have her on a "life skills" program in grade 6 or beyond. We are able to do this at home. This meets her needs and challenges as a person with an intellectual disability and physical disability in a way that neither a school, nor the Australian Curriculum can.

Regards

Tiphonie Stephens  
[REDACTED]