

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 319
Submitted by: Emily Dixon
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Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I am writing to express my concern and apprehension regarding the recent education legislation changes that have been proposed and the potential impact of these changes on the current education system. As a constituent and member of the community I wish to be heard as do my children. I am a registered teacher who has taught in several schools for over a decade within Queensland. I value quality education and worked tirelessly in creating a positive and learning environment within the classroom. I currently home school my three very unique, creative children as school was not able to meet their needs for support, safety or cater adequately for their individuality and learning styles. The proposed legislation raised several pressing concerns that I believe need to be addressed. Particularly enforcing the use of the Australian Curriculum is very restrictive and often pointless, for both parents and children to adhere to. The sheer content of the current curriculum is overwhelming and lacks relevance and meaning. Especially for neurodiverse children who often think outside of the box and cannot pursue their own unique special interests. The Australian Curriculum is far too overloaded and inflexible for many families to adhere to which is often one of the many reasons for home education options, we currently have the flexibility to plan quality education from more than one source, we can pool resources that best fit our children, their interests and varying capabilities and overall well being so they can thrive and pursue their individual goals at their own pace. Imposing this legislation on children will stifle their creativity and passion for learning. It will prevent their natural curiosity and hinder their enjoyment of learning. I am concerned for the effects this could cause on their autonomy and mental health. As a parent, I know my children best and employ you to listen to the many homeschooling families in our community who are against the proposed legislation changes, those who are living it every day with children who are thriving when given the opportunity, flexibility and freedoms. Australian curriculum can be used as a guide and a resource. I do not believe taking parents choices away and enforcing a very standardised curriculum would benefit my children or engage them in quality learning. Please speak to other families, to better understand why many families are home schooling and a better perspective on how this proposal would impact parents and children. Thank you for your time, and attention to this matter, Sincerely, Emily Dixon