

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitter Comments:

RE: Enhancing the regulation of home education and streamlining the home education registration process I would like to invite the committee to review the process that is currently in place for homeschooling, sit down with a large cohort of homeschooling families, and submit their own test application to see how rigorous it is. This committee needs to understand why parents homeschool and that setting strict curriculum that follows the current Queensland curriculum is reckless. The current education system is broken so setting your bar there and telling people they have to follow a failed curriculum is going to drive homeschoolers underground. Please read the 3 books written by Seaforth local Dr Susan Galletly starting with Bunyips in the Classroom: The 10 Challenges. You will be able to get through it in an about 3-4 hours. In her books she demonstrates an evidence based argument for the issues in the current system as well as an EB approach how it can be changed. This would be a good resource for you committee for not only the homeschooling portion but the entire bill. She would be a good person to interview and I highly recommend you don't make educational descions based on political bias or anchoring bias. I chose to homeschool my child because I was unhappy with the current education system (that you will read about in Susan's book). I am finishing a doctorate in August this year and have achieved a bachelors as well as a masters. I went to public primary and high school as well. I am very aware of the education system not only here in Australia but also in the USA. I wanted my child to have an education that was self paced and as aggressive or as tolerant as it needs to be depending on the subject. When applying I did consider the QLD curriculum and I researched it and saw that I could use some of it but not all of it as it's targeted to the top 10 percent of children rather than all children and that it taught memorisation over phonics. We use a mixed curriculum but it's all guided by experts such as Dr Galletly and other primary school educators who have 20 plus years experience. This was our choice of the best resources to use and it should stay that way as we know our child best. To choose these resources it took about a year of planning and talking to people and looking at the research. When you have a baby, you are sent home from the hospital having no clue of what to do and you are expected to thrive. As soon as your child turns 5 they are expected to be handed over to the state for 40 hours a week. Not all families want this. Most people want to raise their own kids and show them that learning is fun and circumvent bad behaviour. We teach our child how to make good choices whether there is a reward or not. This is not the case in the reward based education system. When kids fall behind in any aspect, they stay behind; forever tabled and forced to do tasks outside their comprehension. All children are different. The crux of homeschooling is allowing your children to be different and to give them the education they need, not what is status quo. Before the committee makes any descions that impact families, please get some hands on experience, look at the current research, and shake your bias of what you think homeschoolers do and who they are. We are all different and have the best intentions for our children. Thank you for your time.