Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 413

Submitted by:

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Attachments: See attachment

Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee Members,

I object to the proposals in the Education Bill 2024 particularly in relation to the guiding principals of who determines if homeschooling is in the best interest of our children, using ACARA as the only means to teach our children, and removing the provisional registration component.

I am writing to share my firsthand experience as a homeschooling parent since 2020 and to emphasize the invaluable learning opportunities that homeschooling has provided for my 3 children. In light of the proposed changes to homeschooling legislation, I believe it's crucial to highlight the positive impact that homeschooling has had on my children's love for learning and their preparation for the real world.

The decision was made to remove my children due to constant bullying and Autism driven anxiety and a broken education system that failed to initiate proper safe guards and assistance. The flexibility to arrange Provisional Registration immediately rather than waiting 60 days, as is proposed, alleviated the daily emotional damage down to my children. The years spent at school will have long term effects that I am left to deal with, whereas those responsible get to move on without a thought for the consequences.

Since embarking on our homeschooling journey, I have witnessed a remarkable transformation in my children's attitude towards education and themselves. The personalised learning approach I have adopted has reignited their passion for learning and instilled in them a newfound confidence in their abilities and self-esteem. Rather than merely memorising facts and figures that are often unnecessary, they actively engaged in exploring topics that spark their curiosity in a way that resonates with them personally and is relatable.

It is worth noting that, upon initially examining the current Queensland curriculum, we found that it did not align with our educational philosophy or the learning requirements that our children, who are all diagnosed with Autism, could successfully complete without substantial alterations. Within just two weeks of attempting to follow it, I realised that the high-quality learning experiences I

could provide at home far surpassed what was being offered within the confines of a traditional curriculum and school and I could utilise their creative and visual learning style to their advantage.

Through homeschooling, my children not only acquired academic knowledge but also developed essential life skills and values that are keys to success in the real world. They are learning how to think critically, communicate effectively, and adapt to new situations—all skills that will serve them well beyond the confines of a classroom.

Moreover, homeschooling allows my children to actively participate in the world around them, gaining practical experience and insight that simply cannot be replicated in a traditional school setting. Whether it's volunteering in the community, pursuing hobbies and interests, or engaging in real-world projects, they are actively preparing for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Two of my three children have successfully finished school and obtained employment even without continuing on to University or TAFE, showing that not every child is required to obtain a certificate to contribute to society.

In conclusion, I urge the committee to recognize and celebrate the diverse benefits of homeschooling, which go beyond mere academic achievement. As a homeschooling parent, I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to nurture my children's love of learning and to prepare them for the complexities of the real world through personalised education.

Thank you for considering my perspective.

Sincerely,

Homeschooling Parent