

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 446
Submitted by: Jay Mailey
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Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee Members I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express some concerns regarding the proposed changes to homeschooling legislation. As a member of the homeschooling community, it's imperative that we engage in a thorough examination of the real issues prompting families to opt for homeschooling rather than simply enforcing rigid curriculum requirements. It has come to my attention that the proposed changes primarily focus on mandating adherence to a standardized curriculum without delving into the underlying reasons why many families choose homeschooling in the first place. This approach fails to address the core issues at hand and risks further alienating homeschooling families from the educational system. It's crucial to acknowledge that homeschooling is often chosen by families for a variety of reasons, including dissatisfaction with the traditional schooling system, concerns about safety and bullying, religious or philosophical beliefs, or a desire for more personalized and flexible learning experiences tailored to individual student needs. Rather than imposing stricter regulations, I urge the committee to prioritize understanding and addressing the root causes of homeschooling trends. This entails listening to and considering the feedback from homeschooling parents, who are directly impacted by these legislative changes. Their insights and experiences are invaluable in shaping effective policies that support the diverse needs of families while ensuring the well-being and educational success of children. In conclusion, I respectfully urge the committee to reconsider the proposed changes to homeschooling legislation and to engage in a collaborative dialogue with homeschooling stakeholders to identify and address the real issues driving this educational choice. By doing so, we can work towards a more inclusive and responsive educational system that respects the choices and concerns of all families. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Sincerely, Homeschooling Advocate

Dear Committee members,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed changes to homeschooling regulations, specifically the requirement to adhere to the Australian curriculum. I believe strongly in the importance of parental choice in education.

Homeschooling is a decision that families do not take lightly. It is a commitment born out of our desire to provide our children with a high-quality education that is tailored to their individual needs and interests. Parents understand their children better than anyone else and are best equipped to engage them in meaningful learning experiences.

The decision to homeschool is a testament to parents' devotion to their children and their unwavering commitment to their well-being and academic success. It is a choice that parents have made with careful consideration and one that they believe is in the best interest of their family.

The proposed changes to homeschooling regulations, particularly the requirement to follow the Australian curriculum, would undermine parental choice and autonomy in education. It would impose unnecessary restrictions on families who have chosen to homeschool and limit their ability to provide a personalized and effective education for their children.

I urge you to listen to the overwhelming feedback from homeschooling families and scrap these proposed changes. Instead, I encourage you to support parental choice in education and work towards ensuring that all children have access to diverse and flexible learning options that meet their individual needs.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Jay Mailey

Homeschooling Parent and Advocate