

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 485
Submitted by: Jaide Stronggrove
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Attachments:
Submitter Comments: No attachment

Dear Committee Members, I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed overregulation of homeschooling practices. As a homeschooling parent deeply invested in my children's education, I urge the committee to reconsider these measures, which threaten to undermine the autonomy and effectiveness of homeschooling. It is essential to recognise that homeschooling families do not seek to replicate the traditional school system at home. Rather, we embrace the opportunity to provide a personalised, holistic education that aligns with our children's unique needs, interests, and learning styles. This approach fosters a love of learning, encourages critical thinking, and nurtures individual talents and passions. The imposition of rigid regulations and standardised requirements would only serve to stifle the flexibility and creativity that are the hallmarks of homeschooling. We reject the notion that one-size-fits-all mandates can adequately address the diverse needs of homeschooling families and their children. Instead of focusing on excessive regulation, I urge the committee to support policies that empower homeschooling parents. By fostering a supportive environment that values parental expertise and encourages innovation, we can ensure that all children have access to a high-quality education that prepares them for success in the 21st century. I feel 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 personalised and flexible learning experiences tailored to individual student needs. In conclusion, I appeal to the committee to listen to the voices of homeschooling families and to respect our autonomy in crafting educational experiences that best serve our children. Let us work together to create a regulatory framework that preserves the essence of homeschooling while ensuring accountability and quality education outcomes. Thank you for your attention and consideration. Kind Regards Jaide Stronggrove

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: Proposed changes to education Legislation.
Date: Sunday, 10 March 2024 12:08:22 PM

Dear Committee members,

I DO NOT SUPPORT the current legislation *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* (referred to in documents as *EGPA*) being put forward before parliament because:

Successful homeschooling looks incredibly different to classroom teaching. There are many factors that influence this such as multi-age teaching, concepts or projects that cross many different subject areas and children who have differing learning speeds and styles within the same family.

ACARA aligned resources, methods and expectations are written for qualified teachers, who teach a large number of children at a time. They mostly do not make sense in a 1:1 or a small group learning environment.

Many homeschooling families follow an interest or project lead learning style. This enables deep learning in an area of particular interest. This is particularly difficult to facilitate when ticking boxes off a curriculum.

Many homeschooled children do not attend school because they are neurodivergent and do not learn best in a traditional way. We have already tried the Australian Curriculum and it just doesn't work for us. As parents of these children, we have already sacrificed so much to try and work through the school system, now we are doing everything we can to ensure we are already providing a high quality education (that has already been approved by the HEU) that is adapted to suit the learning styles of our children. Forcing our families to adhere to something that we already know doesn't work will provide more burden upon us, than it would maintaining the trauma we were enduring by sending our children to school.

As a committee can you please provide us with the links to the research and studies that you have conducted to determine that

a) the legislation that you are proposing is in the best interest of the homeschooling community,

b) the evidence that you have that the current model of registration, reporting and legislation for homeschoolers is inadequate,

and finally c) please discuss the consultation you have had within the homeschooling community to determine that this is needed and in our best interest?

Kind Regards

Jaide Stronggrove