

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee members, I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the proposed changes to home education regulations, particularly the requirement for homeschooling families to adhere strictly to the Australian curriculum. As a dedicated homeschooling parent, I strongly believe that these changes fail to recognize the diverse needs and learning styles of our children. Home education provides our family with the flexibility to tailor learning experiences to suit the individual needs and interests of each child. I currently have four school-aged children and have seen, first hand, the benefits of an individualised approach. By imposing rigid curriculum requirements, these proposed changes risk stifling the creativity and innovation that make homeschooling such a valuable educational option. Moreover, the additional administrative burden of reporting on all subjects and aligning educational opportunities with the Australian curriculum - I have seven children - would place a huge strain on myself and inevitably our whole family. This time-consuming task detracts from valuable teaching time and undermines our ability to provide our children with a truly personalized education. Furthermore, the expectation to align with somewhat arbitrary standards will put students (and parents) at risk of anxiety, stress and low self-esteem if they cannot meet those expectations. I urge you to reconsider these proposed changes and instead focus on supporting and empowering homeschooling families. By recognizing the unique benefits of home education and fostering a collaborative relationship between policymakers and homeschooling communities, we can work together to ensure that every child receives a high-quality education that meets their individual needs. Thank you for considering my perspective on this important issue.