

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 544
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Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee Members, I write to you with a fervent plea to acknowledge and honour the remarkable success of home-educated children in society. As a homeschooling Grandparent, I have witnessed firsthand the incredible growth and achievements of my grandson, and I adamantly believe that the current homeschooling system should remain untouched. Home-educated children are not just thriving; they are excelling in every facet of life. From academic accomplishments to personal development, they are demonstrating resilience, creativity, and a passion for lifelong learning. This success is a testament to the dedication and commitment of homeschooling parents who prioritise their children's holistic development and tailor their educational experiences to meet their unique needs and interests. Homeschooling allows families to create an environment that nurtures their child's individual strengths, fosters their curiosity, and instils in them a love for learning that extends far beyond the confines of a classroom. Moreover, homeschooling provides a sanctuary for my grandson—a safe and supportive setting free from the pressures and pitfalls of bullying that have affected him in traditional school environments. In this nurturing atmosphere, he is free to explore, experiment, and grow into a confident and compassionate individual. It is essential to recognise that there is not one singular way to educate a child. Homeschooling empowers parents to teach their children how to learn, not just what to learn, laying the foundation for a lifetime of intellectual curiosity and personal fulfillment. As these home-educated children grow into adulthood, they continue to make significant contributions to society, enriching our communities with their diverse talents, perspectives, and values. We need more of these success stories, not less. In conclusion, I implore the committee to heed the voices of homeschooling families and to uphold their right to educate their children in the manner they deem best. Let us continue to nurture the potential of these children and celebrate the extraordinary outcomes that homeschooling affords. Thank you for your attention and consideration. Sincerely, Gay Smith