

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 558
Submitted by: Joanna Adams
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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: Reconsidering Homeschooling Legislation: Addressing Real Issues
Date: Monday, 18 March 2024 3:20:09 PM

Committee Secretary Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee
Parliament House

George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

[REDACTED] my name is Joanna Adam [REDACTED] Queensland - [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], my contact number is [REDACTED] and e-mail [REDACTED]

I am writing to include my submission for review to the committee and to parliament. I do not support the proposed changes and proposed amendments Dr Farmer MP has put forward.

Home educators tailor individualized learning plans for each homeschooled child to ensure they take into account each child's individual learning style, their learning needs, medical, behavioural needs and religious backgrounds.

I was a second grade teacher in South America and I am very aware that following only one specific curriculum does not benefit every child, if anything it bring disadvantage to the child that is far more in advance and wants to move forward. "the best interest of the child" is not the government duty to say yes or no, parents have the human right - under the international human right ACT to choose what is beneficial to their child and the right to choose what type of education is best for the child. My biggest concern is that the proposed amendments are in bridge with the international human rights act and therefore not constitutional.

Additionally, another concern is that many homeschool families have decided to go this path because the education system have failed them, please keep in mind that the education system uses the Australian Curriculum which is what Di Farmer MP is proposing which indicates that she has failed to understand why homeschoolers have left educational institutions.

Nonetheless, there is the religion aspect - by forcing an specific curriculum the freedom of religion is also in bridge with the human rights act, many people that homeschool their children are doing it so due to religious backgrounds and this is a valid statement, especially when you have groups such as Muslims and Jews that are covered by religion freedom if that makes sense.

Other point of concern, is that one of the amendments says that the parent needs to give a specific reason why the child needs to do homeschooling and whether is for the benefit of the child - then the government will choose to let that child be homeschooled or not, this is again bridged against freedom - the right of parents to choose what is best for the child.

I believe these amendments are an over-reaction from the government .

I believe that. 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.

Please be aware that most of Homeschooled children are far more advanced and that they are giving more to the community by getting better jobs and are less burden to the government, I encourage you to read thousands of homeschoolers and how successful they have become.

Obviously, the decision to re consider these amendments will have a major impact in the future elections, as you realise there is a lot in play and listen to the community and the families affected will be a major factor for the upcoming elections.

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,

Joanna Adams

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- your name
- and at least two of the following:
- email address
 - mailing address, and
 - daytime telephone number.

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Snail Mail option