

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Submission - concern for homeschool legislation changes
Date: Tuesday, 19 March 2024 11:27:37 AM

Dear Leeanne Enoch MP for Algester,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent education legislation changes that have been proposed in our state. As a constituent and a member of the community, I believe it is crucial to voice my apprehensions about the potential impact of these changes on our education system.

I'm a mother of 3 children and a former public servant. I also hold a certificate in children's community services. My two children have been traumatised from mainstream school. One of my children suffers from anaphylaxis to dairy and has had years of anxiety over his safety due to the poor management of allergic awareness in schools. Teachers and school staff are stretched and this shows when no consequences are made to other children's and teachers actions to not include my child due to his health condition. Putting him in a life threatening situation like giving him m&m's to work out a maths problem. Or having yogurt poured over him because another student didn't believe he had an allergy. These are only two occasions that have just been swept under the rug by principal and teachers in QLD education department.

My second son has been diagnosed with ADHD, learning disorders and server anxiety. This anxiety has been brought to the fore front by constant failure to understand my child's needs at mainstream school. Then to completely strip all confidence and love he had left of school a former music teacher called my emotional boy a horrible name and bullied him to a point that he couldn't return any longer. My 8 year old would worry so much he would vomit and pee himself to go to school each morning. The complaint I put into the QLD education department and to former principals went no where.

I don't have any confidence in the governments views on the welfare of my children anymore. I know them best and will always put their needs first. Our family have changed our lives fully to educate our children in a safe environment through online school Euka. While they do follow the Australian curriculum in their lessons; I do understand this learning won't work for every child. There is not enough money and resources available for schools to accommodate for children that don't follow the "easy" way of learning.

We have struggled financially with the cost of education, the cost of living and having to be home to educate and protect our children. We get no financial benefits or help that is given to every other Australian kid at mainstream schools, all because the education system in Australia is under pressure, under funded and can't cope with children that don't fit the "normal mold".

Has home education unit had input into these changes? I provided my report and samples of each subject per term. The government's software platform couldn't even allow the file size to be uploaded for our report. I needed to split it into 8 pieces to submit it. Not to mention the length of time processing that report took. Home education unit would need extensive changes for your changes to take effect.

I am concerned about the lack of transparency and public consultation surrounding these changes. As a stakeholder in our education system, I believe it is imperative for the voices of educators, parents, students, and community members to be heard and considered in any decision-making process that impacts our schools.

In light of these concerns, I urge you to carefully reconsider the proposed education legislation and to prioritize the best interests of our students, teachers, and schools. I implore you to advocate for a more inclusive and collaborative approach to policymaking that values input from all stakeholders and ensures the integrity and quality of our education system.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and for considering my concerns. I look forward to your response and to further dialogue on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Megan Clapham
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone