

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 584
Submitted by: [REDACTED]
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Attachments: See attachment
Submitter Comments:

Subject: I was homeschooled and I am thriving

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed changes to homeschooling legislation. As a homeschooling student, I believe that one of the most significant benefits of choosing home education is the ability to tailor the curriculum to the needs, interests, and abilities of the child.

The decision to homeschool is not made lightly; my parents sacrificed a lot to homeschool me and I will forever be grateful for the rich and wholesome childhood I had the privilege of experiencing. Both of my parents have degrees in the Health Sciences. They nurtured my special passions and kept encouraging me to learn and grow in my areas of interest. My mother went above and beyond to help me with learning challenges with executive functioning.

The current homeschooling system already includes provisions for submitting plans and reports, ensuring accountability and maintaining high standards. My mother would always consult me with plans and we went on many learning adventures together. Therefore, I fail to see the necessity for these proposed changes, which only serve to undermine the autonomy and flexibility that make homeschooling so effective.

In 2022 I finished my home-schooling journey and started TAFE, completing a Certificate IV in Youth Work. I also completed a traineeship in Outdoor Leadership. This year I am completing two diplomas to gain some prerequisites for my university learning that will commence in 2025. I have a job as a support worker for homeschooled children and I also work at an Outdoor Education place where I run programs for up to one hundred school students at a time. The teachers comment on my responsible nature, my ability to lead a

group, and my dedication. They look at me with disbelief when they learn I am only eighteen. That is what homeschooling has given me – an advantage over my peers because I can comfortably interact with all ages, I can learn more about my passions and I can hold myself well in my workplace. By the age of nineteen, I will have two diplomas and be entering University with a stronger idea of what I want to achieve.

Instead of targeting homeschooling families, I urge you to focus on addressing the shortcomings within the traditional public school system. Our goal should be to ensure that all children, regardless of their educational setting, have access to a high-quality education that meets their needs and prepares them for success.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Former Homeschool Success and Homeschool advocate.

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