

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 629
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Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee Members, I am writing to have my views expressed with regards to the new proposed changes outlined in the Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024. I do not agree with the proposed changes, and I strongly believe that they would badly affect all of the homeschooling community I had had the pleasure of meeting including my own family. I would like the Committee to consider the awful impact on our families the changes would have, especially the right to homeschool. I am of the opinion that homeschooling families should not be held to a higher standard than any other family with children. The changes that have been proposed are doing just that. Also, provisional registration is essential for families in transition from traditional school to homeschooling and the other way around. It should be allowed to safeguard and make it as easy process as possible for the child to establish themselves and appropriate plans to be created in order for the education to continue. I feel that my wife who has given up her career in accounting and translating and focused on teaching, she now also teaches wider audience, has done such an amazing job with our children. They are clearly thriving and the amount of knowledge that is continuously brought and developed at our home has made me further my career. Your proposed changes would potentially stop all the progress and growth as a family as we would have to stick solely to the Australian Curriculum which doesn't really work for us. It would take the time away from my wife to create even more in-depth reports on the teaching instead of focusing on the child led approach she has been doing so successfully that our 8-year-old sees a path in his further education as a marine biologist. Whenever I take my children to the park or other venues, I can tell who has been a part of traditional schooling system and who has not. My children are free spirited and share with anyone and everyone and don't feel stereotyped. I do not want them to grow up feeling that way and they are always ready to help out. I can honestly say that our kids and friends' kids are thriving whilst being homeschooled and that was succeeded without using the Australian curriculum. I can clearly see that requiring it would be detrimental to their education. Therefore, I can only say that I oppose the proposed bill. The Australian curriculum is not what makes a high-quality education. And the right should remain solely with the parent to decide what is best for their child or children, not the government. I hope this and many other submissions will paint a much better picture to the one it has been portrayed by the media and those who prepared these proposals for change of legislation which has turned out to be in majority of sections completely misguided and unnecessary. Your Sincerely, Tama