## **Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024**

Submission No: 652

Submitted by: Tekira Reis-Datodi

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From:

To: Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee

**Subject:** Reconsidering Homeschooling Legislation: Addressing Real Issues

**Date:** Tuesday, 19 March 2024 1:13:45 PM

## Dear Committee,

My name is Tekira Reis-Datodi. I am a young person living in Brisbane.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed changes in the Education Bill 2024 homeschooling legislation, particularly the requirement to follow a specific curriculum and the reporting process.

I believe high quality education should not have to be defined by a national and narrow curriculum. Parents and children must be trusted with their autonomy and ability to know what is best for their learning experience. The overwhelming amount of reporting to show you are educating your child in accordance with the proposed bill will take away valuable time spent tutoring the child in the way that benefits them the most.

Not everyone is suited to a traditional education. Not every child is functioning on the same level. There are many incredible people I know who have limited beliefs of their intelligence and self-worth simply because they did not fit the template of how to engage and absorb content in their school system. These beliefs negatively impact their future. Homeschooling provides an opportunity of incalculable importance to cater to the specific needs of the child to feel confident in their ability to learn and develop a healthy relationship with the pursuit of knowledge and skills.

I am a person who was homeschooled and am forever grateful for that fact. My schooling was not restricted to a single curriculum, and I was given freedom to pursue subjects not simply because they were required, but because I felt personally drawn to seeking out more information. Through my education I feel confident in my intelligence and have a love of learning. I have a greater understanding of myself, my interests and what career I want. I know many people who home educate, and I want to home educate my future children. This decision will impact me directly. I believe people deserve the freedom to choose their own pathway and the respect and resources to do it well.

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 genuine 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.

Tekira Reis-Datodi