

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 662
Submitted by: Erin Levay
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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: Submission in opposition of proposed changes to Homeschooling policies.
Date: Saturday, 16 March 2024 8:03:29 AM

Dear Committee members,

I am writing to express my concerns in relation to the proposed changes to the Education Act that have been announced. As a home educator I oppose the changes in relation to homeschooling as my husband and I are particularly concerned and worried about the impact these changes will have on my family and the homeschooling community.

We are particularly concerned about mandating homeschooling children to follow the Australian National Curriculum. As a homeschool family, we have tried using the Australian Curriculum to educate our children. It does not work for us. To this date we have been fortunate to have the flexibility to choose how we provide a high quality education for our children and each child is thriving with a passion and love for learning.

Your proposal fails to recognise the diverse learning styles and individual interests of children. It ignores the fact that homeschooling allows us to tailor an education program to the specific needs and preferences of each child; ensuring a high-quality education practice that is both engaging and effective.

According to recent research collected by the Home Education Unit (2002), 2 in 3 home educating families have chosen to do so because of an underlying disability or health issue. They have chosen this avenue because of the flexibility it affords. This enables families to educate and care for their children in a manner that suits their learning style. Most of these students have left mainstream schooling because they could not learn in the traditional style.

In 2018, as a family, we moved from Victoria to Queensland specifically for the education of our children. We removed our children from school less than 8 weeks into the beginning of their schooling life. This was due to the fact their safety and well-being had been compromised. This, in turn, started us on the homeschooling journey. We have wonderful, healthy, happy, thriving, children that love to learn everyday. This is a world of change from having a child crying and anxious and not wanting to go to school each day.

I urge you to reconsider this, and other changes you have proposed, in relation to homeschooling policies. We could work together to create a more open communication between you and us, the QLD homeschooling community. Let's focus on supporting and empowering families to give the best to our children - our future adults of our state.

Thank you for your attention and action. I look forward to your response on this very important matter.

My contact details are:

[REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Erin Levay