

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 695
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Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

Good afternoon, I am writing to voice my concerns about the newly proposed changes to the education legislation in Qld, regarding homeschooling. We are currently a homeschooling family that would be greatly impacted should the proposed changes come into effect. We have a neurodivergent child with complex motor processing difficulties and speech delays. Our child has always developed at least 6-12 months behind her biological age due to the complexity of her diagnoses'. Therefore to request she follows the Australian curriculum standards for her age-appropriate level would not only be setting her up for failure but would very likely affect her overall wellbeing at a detrimental level. I would be gravely concerned for her psychological wellbeing, should she be required to meet standards above her capability level. Also, due to her challenges she is required to attend frequent therapy sessions and support from allied health experts. Her therapy is not only conducted through the school term but she needs to attend intensive speech therapy inside school holiday times. As you can imagine this is extremely hard on a child but is absolutely necessary for her to be a functioning adult. By tailoring her education around her interest areas I am able to compensate for this hardship by making her learning fun, interesting and therefore engaging. Should she be required to only learn about topics associated to her year level, she would disengage, and it would further add to her hardship. The current education legislation will allow us to provide a high-quality education for her, that is a tailored plan that supports her personal ability levels and interest and is not a one size fits all education. I truly hope you consider the submissions made by parents with neurodivergent children and children with needs, when considering the impact these proposed changes will have on their quality of education. Thank you for taking the time to read my submission.