Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitter Comments:

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express some concerns regarding the proposed changes to homeschooling legislation. As of a report done in 2023, over 43,000 students in Australia and 10,000 students in Qld are home educated. Different families will choose to home educate for different reasons, but the essence of home-educating lies in the freedom it affords children to learn in a manner that aligns with their individual abilities, learning styles and interests. Homeschooling aims to provide each child with a personalized learning experience that fosters their intellectual curiosity and allows them to pursue their passions and develop their full potential. As a qualified educator and current full-time nanny, as well as a homeschool graduate myself, I understand the uniqueness of each individual child and the importance of quality education. Everyone who works in education knows the importance of having a holistic approach that meets the needs of the child. For thousands of families across Australia, homeschooling is the answer to enable a flexible, child-focussed approach to learning. However, the new proposed changes to the legislation primarily focus on mandating adherence to a standardized curriculum, which would be in direct opposition to the very reason parents have chosen to home educate in the first place. It overlooks the fact that every child is unique and may thrive in different subject areas or learning environments. By imposing rigid educational requirements, we are stripping children of their autonomy in learning and hindering their ability to pursue education in a way that best suits their needs. Currently, parents are permitted to develop their own program and