Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From:

To: Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee

Subject: Queensland Education Legislation

Date: Sunday, 17 March 2024 5:42:25 PM

To the Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee,

I am writing to object to the Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Bill 2024 in the current form. I have specific concerns with the implications of Clauses 18, 64 & 68 and I am in support of the Free2homeschool Movement. These changes will impact the wonderful home educating families I know, restricting them in their freedom of choice when it comes to educating their children, therefore having a detrimental effect on thousands of children across the state.

This will have a direct impact on a child like mine who suffered sexual assault by an older student and was too afraid to tell us as he was threatened with being bashed by very single lunchtime and recess if he told anyone. It took 4 months of him misbehaving in class, so he would be sent to detention every lunchtime, I later found out to avoid further sexual or physical assault at lunchtime, before I withdrew him from mainstream school, and 6 months of home schooling before he trusted he would not be returned to mainstream school, to tell us about the assults he has been subjected to. By the time we withdrew him he had begun saying he would be better off dead and was too traumatised to change schools as he had lost trust the teachers or others could protect him, due to several assults taking place while within detention in the principals office.

Clause 18, imposing child safety legislation Clause 64, removing any allowances to provisional until everything for an application is submitted including plan.

Clause 68, forcing a state dictated curriculum even if not in the best interests of the child.

This will have a direct impact on over 10,000 children across the state of Queensland, taking away the freedom to home educate will leave children vulnerable to assault and further damage within the "education system", therefore home education should not only be an option but it should be one that is made easier to access for families who truely are looking for lifeline to a child already in trauma.

