Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From:

Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee

Subject: Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Please remove identifying information before public posting.

Dear Committee,

I strongly object to the proposals in the Education Bill 2024 regarding changes to homeschooling:

Welfare: Parents are the ones who are primarily responsible for their child's wellbeing and want the best for them – not the government. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that "Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children". The proposed changes requiring proof from the home educator that this is best for the child are completely unreasonable – especially as the schools aren't even meeting this requirement.

Removal of provisional registration: I have read *multiple* horrific stories from other homeschoolers whose children were strangled or otherwise assaulted at school. Or whose children wanted to kill themselves because of bullying. Their parents wanted to homeschool for the safety of their child, and they can't afford to wait for approval of full registration to make sure their child is safe – they need to do it immediately. The changes in the bill would mean that children in this situation would be stuck with bullies or in other life-threatening situations or deemed truants until their parents could write a plan of education. The previously allowed 60d lead time needs to be maintained for safety.

Learning is not one-size-fits-all.

Yours sincerely,

