


## Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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## Subject: Celebrating the Success of Home-Educated Children: Upholding Parental Rights

I write to you with an impassioned plea to acknowledge and honour the remarkable success of home-educated children in society. As homeschooling parents, we have witnessed firsthand the incredible growth and achievements of our children, and we adamantly believe that the current homeschooling system should remain untouched.

Our Home-educated children are not just thriving; they are excelling in every facet of life. From academic accomplishments to personal development, they are demonstrating resilience, creativity, and a passion for lifelong learning. This success is a testament to the dedication and commitment of homeschooling parents who prioritize their children's holistic development and tailor their educational experiences to meet their unique needs and interests.

We firmly assert our right as parents to educate our children. They are **our** children, and we know them better than any system ever could. Homeschooling allows us to create an environment that nurtures their individual strengths, fosters their curiosity, and encourages in them a love for learning that extends far beyond the confines of a classroom.

Through homeschooling, my children have not only acquired academic knowledge, but are also developing essential life skills and values that are essential for success in the real world. They are learning how to think critically, communicate effectively, and adapt to new situations—all skills that will serve them well beyond the confines of a classroom.

Moreover, homeschooling provides a sanctuary for our children—a safe and supportive setting free from the pressures and pitfalls of bullying that often plague traditional school environments. In this nurturing atmosphere, they are free to explore, experiment, and grow into confident and compassionate individuals. This was not achievable when they were in Government Mainstream, as they were both isolated, and ostracised due to their neurodivergence and personal morals.

It is essential to recognize that there is not one singular way to educate a child. Homeschooling empowers parents to teach their children how to learn, not just what to learn, laying the foundation for a lifetime of intellectual curiosity and personal fulfillment. I have one child who is very academic based, and needs to “tick boxes”, while another pursues Project Learning, which encompasses almost all “school subjects” within one topic.

As these home-educated children grow into adulthood, they continue to make significant contributions to society, enriching our communities with their diverse talents, perspectives, and values. We need more of these success stories, not less.

In conclusion, I implore the committee to heed the voices of homeschooling parents and to uphold our right to educate our children in the manner we deem best. Let us continue to nurture the potential of our children and celebrate the extraordinary outcomes that homeschooling affords.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

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[Homeschooling Parent and Advocate]