Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 755

Submitted by: Rachael Kelly

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From:

Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee

Subject:

Concerns about the proposed changes to require home education families to follow the National Curriculum

as outlined in the Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Date:

Thursday, 14 March 2024 5:25:20 AM

Rachael Kelly

13/03/2024

To the Parliamentary Committee,

I am writing to you regarding concerns I have about the proposed changes to require home education families to follow the National Curriculum as outlined in the *Education* (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024.

I know many successful home educating families, and can see the time, dedication, and skill they put into their children's education, including choosing or designing the appropriate curriculum for their child's needs. They have already tried the Australian Curriculum and it did not work for the needs of their child, otherwise they would of taken this much easier route regarding time, effort and money.

Most home-schooling families are doing everything we can to ensure they are already providing a high quality education (that has already been approved by the HEU) that is adapted to suit the learning styles of their children. Forcing families to adhere to something that they already know doesn't work and proved traumatic to their children, is an illogical and doomed to failure move on the part of the Government.

My home educated nephew is dyslexic and his university educated mother has designed a curriculum that caters to his strengths, and keeps his confidence high. Consequently he is an amazing child with skills far above his age. At 11 he has run his own vanilla bean business, can use pretty much any tool, has built usable structures, is able to name most plants and animals in the environment, participates in citizen science projects regularly (he has just captured footage of a dingo and cassowary on his night cam), and has high intensive reading, English, science and math lessons daily. This type of personalised learning is limited in a classroom, but it can excel in a home education setting. I believe my nephew would not be at his advanced level if he had had to follow the one size doesn't-fit-all current Qld curriculum.

I believe these changes reflect unnecessary Government over-reach, while at the same time reducing the capacity of home-educators to act in the best interests of their children. This will impact their day-to-day lives in significant and unnecessary ways and more importantly does not accord with parents' right to choose. Further, it sets a precedent for intervention in education choices, and I urge the Government to reconsider these changes. We would hope the Government continues to support choice in education for Queenslanders.

Lastly, please provide me with the links to the research and studies that has been conducted to determine that

- a) the legislation that is being proposed is in the best interest of the home-schooling community,
- b) the evidence that the current model of registration, reporting and legislation for homeschoolers is inadequate,
- c) and please discuss the consultation conducted within the home-schooling community to determine that this is needed and in their best interest?

Regards, Rachael Kelly

Rachael Kelly (Mother, Aunt & Community Development Officer)

May You Walk in Beauty Rachael Kelly

Sent with **Proton Mail** secure email.