

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

**Submission No:** 780  
**Submitted by:** Tracey Warburton  
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**Submitter Comments:**

Subject: Reconsidering Homeschooling Legislation: Addressing Real Issues

Dear Committee Members,

As a parent preparing to homeschool our child once she reaches school age, I am writing to share my concerns regarding the proposed changes to homeschooling legislation. It is my belief that as stakeholders in the homeschooling community, it is imperative that we engage in a comprehensive examination of the true reasons prompting families to choose homeschooling, rather than simply imposing rigid curriculum requirements.

Upon reviewing the proposed changes, it has become apparent to me that the focus lies primarily on mandating adherence to a standardized curriculum, without delving into the underlying motivations behind many families' decision to homeschool. This approach overlooks the core issues at hand and may further isolate homeschooling families from the educational system.

It is important to acknowledge that families opt for homeschooling for a variety of reasons, ranging from dissatisfaction with traditional schooling methods, concerns about safety and bullying, to religious or philosophical beliefs, or a desire for more personalized and flexible learning experiences tailored to their child's individual needs. Enforcing a standardized curriculum fails to recognize the diverse interests and talents of homeschooling students, potentially stifling their ability to explore and excel in areas that ignite their passions.

Instead of imposing stricter regulations, I urge the committee to prioritize understanding and addressing the underlying reasons for the increase in homeschooling rates. This involves actively listening to and considering the feedback from homeschooling parents, who are directly affected by these legislative changes. Their perspectives and experiences are invaluable in shaping policies that support the diverse needs of families while ensuring the well-being and educational success of children.

In conclusion, I respectfully urge the committee to reconsider the proposed changes to homeschooling legislation and to engage with homeschooling stakeholders to identify and address the genuine issues driving this educational choice. In doing so, we can work towards a more inclusive and responsive educational system respecting the choices and concerns of all families while upholding a child's right to education.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Tracey Warburton