

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

**Submission No:** 807  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
**Publication:** Making the submission public but withholding your name  
**Attachments:** No attachment  
**Submitter Comments:**

I am writing this submission to reject the proposed amendments to the current education legislation in Queensland regarding homeschooling. My wife and I have homeschooled our children for fourteen years and we have one graduate so far. I have read the proposed Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024 put forward by the Education Minister, Di Farmer and am concerned about the wording around parents having to demonstrate how homeschooling would be in 'the best interests of the child.' This is a move to take away the right of parents to make educational choices for their children and I can see no reason for this other than to take away parents' rights and give them to the government. I strongly disagree with this as I believe that parents are the ones who know their children best and who should have the right to make these choices about education. Secondly, there is a proposal to force families to use the Australian Curriculum and to require more extensive reporting and planning than the current significant requirements. Why should families who have chosen to homeschool, have to use the same curriculum as schools use? Parents want to homeschool so that they can tailor a quality education based on their knowledge and understanding of the individual child. There are many criticisms of the Australian Curriculum – just google it and you will see. Furthermore, why should families who homeschool have to do far more reporting and planning than school teachers do? The current system works well and the Home Education Unit (HEU) does a great job. I wasn't homeschooled myself but my wife was and we made the decision to homeschool and see how it went for each child, year by year. So far, we are extremely pleased with the progress and outcomes and intend to continue homeschooling. Being part of the broader homeschool community, I see a lot of homeschooled children as well as children who are not homeschooled. There is no doubt in my mind that homeschooling is a wonderful choice for many families and it shows in the children. Do you know that in a gathering of some 60 homeschooled kids for a co-op day experiences NO incidents of bullying? Just think about that for a minute. The children eagerly engage in their classes and during free time have a rip-roaring great time playing together, whether it be board games or wonderful games of soccer with multiple ages, boys and girls, all enjoying themselves. And No Bullying. I have seen children come into co-op after being pulled out of the public school system so shut down that they sat in the corner with their heads on their knees, for the whole day. By the third co-op meet up, that child was running around, making friends and happy. Please don't punish these children and hard working, committed homeschooling parents who are already doing an excellent job in providing a quality education for their children by making the process harder and enforcing curriculum. Kind regards, [REDACTED]