

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 817
Submitted by: [REDACTED]
Publication: Making the submission public but withholding your name
Attachments: See attachment
Submitter Comments:

Dear Education Committee Members,

My name is [REDACTED] and I'm 14 years old. I'm writing to express my disagreement with the suggested changes to homeschooling legislation in Queensland.

I have started in the school environment but those days were really challenging. The rigid structure and lack of support made my anxiety worse, and I found it hard to keep up with the pace of learning. I received little support from teachers or staff after receiving a diagnosis, and my anxiety got worse over time meaning I missed school days.

Since we started homeschooling my life has changed for the better. I have lots of support and even though I am still anxious I can do things in a way that helps me not what a school says I need to do. I've been able to excel in areas that really interest me. I am now a mountain bike rider and have started my own bike repair business where I've been able to apply the skills I taught myself and my love of fixing things. I've discovered a love for music, learning French, playing the piano, and photography. Through my love of lego I can build all sorts of car models and because of this I have learnt about engines and how cars work including aerodynamics. These bring me a lot of joy in ways I never experienced at school and I am always learning.

As a homeschooler, I am part of the 80% majority who choose not to follow the ACARA curriculum. Instead, my learning and family focus on critical thinking, creativity, and exploration. This is helping me to be a more independent learner and I can follow my interests and passions with more confidence.

I want to invite the members of the Education Committee to come and learn what homeschooling looks like without the pressure of the ACARA curriculum. See the supportive environment we have created as a family and all the amazing things we explore.

I have been following the legislation changes with my family and we disagree with having to explain our decision to homeschool. This should always remain a family choice not one for the government.

Please think about what these changes will truly mean for homeschooling families and make sure before any decisions are made that you know just how diverse and high quality our learning already is.

