

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 819
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Submitter Comments:

Dear Education Committee Members,

My name is [REDACTED] and I'm 8 years old. I'm writing about the possible changes to homeschooling legislation in Queensland.

I have ADHD, selective mutism, and dysgraphia, which would make lots of parts of being at a school very challenging for me. I have never been to a school because my family and I believe that homeschooling is the best choice for me. With the support of my family, an occupational therapist, and a psychologist, I do really well at home and can work at my own speed on things that interest me.

We are part of the 80% of homeschoolers who do not follow the ACARA curriculum. Instead our family beliefs are to allow all of us to shine and help create free thinking and independent learners.

For example, I can write code and am working on creating my own soap making business. I taught myself to read at the age of 4, taught myself to swim and now I am learning to play the piano and also the ukulele with my Dad. As a family, we love raising animals, playing games, cooking, baking, doing science experiments, gardening, exploring STEM activities, and learning other skills like knitting and circus skills. Sometimes Mummy says I ask such great questions that they don't know the answer to so we love researching the answers together. I also love to work things out by tinkering and building things including asking what you like then building it out of Lego.

I do not agree with the suggested changes to the homeschooling legislation, especially having to explain why families choose to homeschool. Homeschooling is an amazing choice for families like mine, and we should not have to explain our decision if it is a valid form of education (which it is). That is a personal decision for my parents and family to decide not the education department.

Thank you for your reading my letter.

