

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitter Comments:

As a homeschooling parent for 8 years I have witnessed firsthand the incredible growth and achievements of many children in our homeschool community, and I adamantly believe that the current homeschooling system should remain untouched. Home-educated children are not just thriving; they are excelling in every facet of life. From academic accomplishments to personal development, they are demonstrating resilience, creativity, and a passion for lifelong learning. This success is a testament to the dedication and commitment of homeschooling parents who prioritize their children's holistic development and tailor their educational experiences to meet their unique needs and interests. Expressing on behalf of my homeschool community, we firmly assert our right as parents to educate our children. They are our children, and we know them better than any system ever could. Homeschooling allows us to create an environment that nurtures their individual strengths, fosters their curiosity, and instills in them a love for learning that extends far beyond the confines of a classroom. Moreover, homeschooling provides a sanctuary for our children—a safe and supportive setting free from the pressures and pitfalls of bullying that often plague traditional school environments. In this nurturing atmosphere, they are free to explore, experiment, and grow into confident and compassionate individuals. Implementing the law to follow ACARA curriculum for homeschooling would also present the option of homeschooling no less different from sending our children to school. In order to cover the curriculum, meet the standards and tick the list, parents' creativity on educating their children will be stifled and what the children could do to optimise their potentials and strengths will also become limited as they focus on and strive to complete what the curriculum demands. It is essential to recognize that there is not one singular way to educate a child. Homeschooling empowers parents to teach their children how to learn, not just what to learn, laying the foundation for a lifetime of intellectual curiosity and personal fulfillment. As these home-educated children grow into adulthood, they continue to make significant contributions to society, enriching our communities with their diverse talents, perspectives, and values. We need more of these success stories, not less. In conclusion, I implore the committee to heed the voices of homeschooling parents and to uphold our right to educate our children in the manner we deem best. Let us continue to nurture the potential of our children and celebrate the extraordinary outcomes that homeschooling affords. Thank you for your attention and consideration. Sincerely,