

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 881
Submitted by: Salome McDonnell
Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee Members, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed amendments outlined in the Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024, specifically the requirement for homeschooling children to adhere to the Australian Curriculum. As a homeschooling parent, I firmly believe that these changes would undermine the very reasons why many families, including mine, have chosen homeschooling as the preferred mode of education for our children. We are in our fifth year of home educating our two daughters, aged 11 & 13. With my guidance, they are free to learn in a manner that aligns with their individual interests, abilities and learning styles. None of which can be supported by following the current Australian Curriculum. My daughters are thriving - they are intelligent, curious and compassionate. They are both excelling with literacy and numeracy skills, have a wide range of interests and hobbies, and have ambitious goals for their futures. Home education has been a wonderful and rewarding experience for them, and our entire family. One of the primary motivations for homeschooling was to provide our children with a personalised learning experience that fostered their natural curiosity and allowed them to learn at their own pace. These new regulations threaten to restrict this flexibility and will stifle their creativity and enthusiasm for learning. Over the past few years I have spent countless hours planning and reporting directly to the Home Education Unit, on my children's learning, in accordance with the current legislation. I believe this is an adequate, fair and effective process as it stands. Imposing more rigid educational requirements and enforcing standardised curriculum will only negatively impact our children and our family's way of life. As a parent deeply invested in my children's education, I urge the committee to reconsider these restrictive measures. Thank you for considering my concerns. Sincerely, S. McDonnell
Homeschooling Parent