

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

**Submission No:** 905  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Education Bill 2024  
**Date:** Tuesday, 19 March 2024 11:15:24 AM

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Dear committee,

I do not consent to the proposals in the Education Bill 2024, mainly the following:

<!--[if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Guiding principles – change in section 7 (a) of the current Education Act – changing ‘of choosing’ to ‘for choosing’. Even though the change in wording is small, it could prove detrimental to home schooling as it could compel parents to prove that homeschooling is in the best interest of a child. Parents don’t come to homeschooling lightly; they have very good reasons for doing so and should not need to justify them in order to be allowed to choose the homeschooling path.

<!--[if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Using national syllabus and show progress – would compel parents to use the national syllabus and report on all subjects, specifically English and mathematics – and would also mean that the child would need to show progress which is something not required of any child in school in Australia. National syllabus can be a hindrance to the success of homeschooling as one of the reasons why children thrive when homeschooled is due to the fact that they can focus on a subject of their interest and go into the depth that they are comfortable in. This is something that a national curriculum cannot offer as by definition it is restrictive to what is decided that a child should learn. One of my children, for example, is very good in making things. When he got interested in learning how to play a guitar, he has not only been learning how to play it but also how to make one and how to change a circuitry on an electric guitar so that the guitar does what he intends it to do. In order to do this, he has contacted many manufacturers of electric guitars, has spoken to shop owners of guitar shops that make guitars, has learned more about electric circuits (one of his other interests). In the future, he is thinking of potentially making guitars as well, all this from an interest related to guitars. All that he has learned through this process is knowledge that will always stay with him in the future. I am sure you’ll agree that most of the skills and knowledge that he has gained and learned would not be part of a national curriculum. As such, I believe that national curriculum could be used as a guidance for homeschoolers as it has been until now but I strongly disagree with it being a tool to which children should adhere in their homeschooling studies. Additionally, given that children in school in Australia do not need to show progress, I do not consent for homeschooling children needing to do this as a requirement for homeschooling. Every child learns differently and progress can be very subtle although present, it may not be visibly seen until some time later.

<!--[if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Removal of provisional registration – which

would remove the 60 day period between registration and writing a plan. I strongly disagree with this change as there are many times when parents may need to take children out of school on a short notice. They may learn about something going on in school, or being done to their child, have a medical reason or some other reason why they decide that school is not the right place for their child any longer. If they need to take their child our right away but are prohibited by the Act to do so, it may have very negative consequences on the child. I trust that the 60 day period for providing an educational plan will be put back into the Act so that childrens' best interest are being supported.

<!--[if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Section 7 of the current Education Act lists three criteria for providing High Quality education to children. A fourth has been added for possible inclusion 'recognises wellbeing as ...' I view this inclusion as very intrusive to the family life of homeschoolers and strongly oppose to it.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]