

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
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Dear Committee,

I write to you with my objections towards the current proposals in the Education Bill, 2024 concerning the changes that will significantly impact all Home Educating families.

I'm concerned with the introduction of having to align all teaching and curriculums to the National Curriculum. The success and fruit of our children is witnessed in the individualised programs we are able to set for them as we cater for their specific needs. Having Home Educated for 15 years, I have already graduated two of our four children from their formal Primary and Secondary schooling at home. One has gone on to travel to Spain to utilise her language fluency in Spanish before starting Higher Education at University in Speech Pathology while the other one is completing an Apprenticeship in Carpentry. I would be highly concerned if their education became limited by having to squeeze them into a "cookie-cutter-one-size-fits-all" approach. They have both been hugely successful due to their individualised and tailor-made education, where they were able to pursue things which interested them. In addition to their formal studies in Maths, Science, HASS and English, my younger two children specifically pursue lessons in woodturning, pyrography, art, cello, French, singing, writing etc. I am afraid that their interests in these areas would be quashed in order to fit in other topics within the National Curriculum that are of no interest to them. All of my teacher friends admit that the current National Curriculum is way too overcrowded and causes them to teach ineffectively as they skim over topics in no depth. If this were mandated, I'd be gravely concerned for the education of our children in our care.

Increasing reporting expectations well above what is expected of our teaching counterparts, seems like a ludicrous concept when the majority of parents are desiring to just get on with teaching and educating their children. The reason many of these children are being home educated, is because the current schooling system has grossly failed them. Increasing additional expectations in this area is not going to improve the quality of their education. Two of my four children have significant special needs. I am able to cater for their additional struggles while maintaining a safe and hospitable home environment for them to flourish. Adding additional pressures in this area, will only cause greater angst to families who are already doing their best.

I am also concerned for those who require "Provisional Registration" when taking their child/ren out of the current education system. In order to be able to best cater for their child/ren, this requires time for them to be able to research and investigate what educational practices will best serve their child/ren.

It is my hope that you will carefully consider and hear the objections of home-educating families as they share their concerns with you. These parents really do endeavor to raise and educate well-adjusted and upstanding young citizens to enter into the adult world. I believe that these proposed changes, will only hinder and restrict these efforts.

Yours sincerely,
Taya Joppich