

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Kelly Tremlett

From: Meagan Wakerley [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, 20 March 2024 4:50 PM
To: Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Submission on the Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Attn: Committee Secretary - Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee

Dear Committee Secretary

I write to make a submission on the Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024.

As a parent I want to share with the Committee my experiences and why I believe that all students with disability deserve access to a fair and equal education.

As a future social worker the rights of people is what I stand for. Children with disabilities need more inclusion not less. How will "neuro typical" children learn empathy and understanding if they don't see it?

These experiences have led me to support the A Right to Learn campaign, which is focused on keeping disabled students in the classroom.

I strongly endorse the campaign's five asks in response to the Bill, including:

- 1: Using suspension as a last resort. I agree with the Disability Royal Commission recommendation that school suspensions should be a last resort or to prevent 'serious harm'.
- 2: Currently, the Bill only allows an appeal when a student has been suspended for 11 days or more in a year. I believe that there should be appeal rights for all suspensions, regardless of the number of days.
- 3: The implementation of a multi-tiered support system. Children experiencing multiple suspensions require support through a multi-tiered system to address their needs effectively.
- 4: I support the need for increased transparency and accountability in schools regarding efforts to reduce suspensions, such as submitting an annual report to Parliament, establishing a Board to oversee suspensions, and implementing scorecards for schools.
- 5: To include a Students Rights section in the Bill to enshrine the right to learn for all Queensland students.

I thank the Committee for the opportunity to make a submission on the Bill.

Yours sincerely,
Meagan Wakerley
[REDACTED]

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