

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 968
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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: Submission regarding proposed changes to education legislation in Qld
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Committee Secretary
Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to you with my concerns regarding the proposed amendments to the education bill that has recently been presented to parliament. As a parent who has recently finished home-schooling our 3 children, I do not support some of these changes that have been introduced and I am worried about the impact that they will have on the home-schooling community.

I am particularly concerned about families who have children with learning challenges or special needs. As a parent of a neurodivergent child, we spent hundreds of hours consulting with psychologists and occupational therapists to assist us in determining the best ways to support and engage him. Our child learnt best with a project-led, hands on learning style, and needed to take regular breaks as he processed the information presented to him. In grade 11 he was enrolled in a Distance Education School, and their learning enrichment team spent hours modifying and tailoring the subjects / schedule just for him. This allowed him become deeply immersed in an area of interest, which also crossed at least 3 key learning areas. Adhering to the Australian Curriculum would have rendered this impossible for our child.

The lack of understanding as to why and how families choose to home-school is also troubling. Home-schooling is chosen for a variety of reasons, including dissatisfaction with the traditional schooling system, concerns about safety and bullying, religious or philosophical beliefs, or a desire for more personalized and flexible learning experiences tailored to individual student needs. An effective and vibrant learning environment should be adaptable and flexible, allowing time for content to be processed and understood, even applied. Allowing home-schoolers this opportunity takes the pressure off the teachers and schools, where classrooms are overflowing.

I'm concerned that the legislation has been introduced without proper consultation with current home-schooling families and I hope that you will take my feedback into consideration. For education to be inclusive of all students, I believe it is important to understand the reasoning behind the education decisions of the families who struggle the most to fit into mainstream education. Having a choice, and being supported in that choice, is important.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns. It is my hope that, going forward, this legislation can suit the needs of all students across Queensland. I look forward to hearing your response about this important issue.

Sincerely,

Bronwen Bolitho

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Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.