Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No:	973
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Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed changes to home education policies in Queensland, particularly the requirement to follow a specific curriculum. It appears that instead of addressing the underlying issues within the traditional schooling system, the focus is being shifted towards imposing stricter regulations on homeschooling families.

It is evident that the current educational system is failing to meet the needs of many students, leading families to seek alternative options such as home education. Rather than scrutinizing and making life difficult for those who choose homeschooling, it is imperative to examine why families are leaving the traditional system in the first place and address those concerns.

One positive aspect of the proposed changes is the extension of the age of registration for home education until 18, aligning it with the standard practice for all schools. However, it is puzzling why this has not been the case already and highlights the need for further scrutiny of existing policies.

From my perspective, the best interest of children, and society in general, is likely to be served by maintaining real and distinct options for children and families when it comes to education, and supporting families to make mindful and informed decisions about educational matters.

I urge the committee to reconsider its approach and prioritize addressing the issues within the traditional schooling system. Let us work towards creating a more inclusive and effective educational environment that meets the diverse needs of all students, whether they choose homeschooling or traditional schooling.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this matter.

Sincerely, Bev Goss

Concerned Citizen