

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: Ensuring Inclusive Education For Children with Disabilities A call for Action
Date: Thursday, 21 March 2024 9:54:29 AM

Dear Committee Members,

As a homeschooling parent of a child with several disabilities, I am deeply disappointed by the proposed changes to homeschooling legislation. For many children with disabilities and neurodivergences, homeschooling is not just a choice but a necessity—an opportunity to create an environment where they can thrive at their own pace and in their own unique way.

It is disheartening to see a focus on making homeschooling more rigid rather than addressing the systemic barriers that prevent many children with disabilities from accessing quality education in mainstream schools. Instead of imposing restrictive measures on homeschooling families, the committee's efforts would be better directed towards making mainstream schools more accessible and inclusive for all students, regardless of their abilities or differences.

Children with disabilities often face significant challenges in traditional school settings, where rigid structures and standardized approaches may not accommodate their diverse needs. Homeschooling provides a lifeline for these children, offering the flexibility and personalized support they require to learn and grow in a safe and nurturing environment. Rather than limiting the options available to families, we should be working to ensure that all children have access to a range of educational opportunities that meet their individual needs and preferences. This includes advocating for greater resources and support for inclusive education practices within mainstream schools, as well as providing alternative options like homeschooling for those who require a more tailored approach.

My families situation is my son is 15 years old and has been diagnosed ASD Level 3 non verbal, high anxiety, has an intellectual disability and a medical condition. He can not do the work load as his peers. He is still at the learning level of prep so doing the national curriculum for someone in grade 10 isn't in his learning level. He was attending school until he had a burn out and refusing to go to school. He would have a melt down as soon as I showed him his uniform. He would go to school crying and the staff would ask why is crying and I would say he didn't want to come to school. Since homeschooling him he is more happy and he is learning at his pace. He is given time to move around when needed. And is given more time to finish his tasks. If he was at school they would require him to do it in a time frame. But at home he can take as long as he needs to finish the task. It takes him 5 mins to process what he's been shown or told to do before he will do the task.

In conclusion, I urge the committee to reconsider its approach to homeschooling legislation and to prioritize the needs of children with disabilities and neurodivergences and the learning level that they are at.

Thank you for considering my perspective.

Sincerely,

Lucrezia Cecchi

Homeschooling Parent of a Child with Disabilities

Lucrezia Cecchi

