Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From:	
То:	Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee
Subject:	Opposing proposed changes to Homeschool Legislation
Date:	Friday, 22 March 2024 9:33:49 PM

To whom it may concern

Re: We firmly oppose the proposed legislative changes to the homeschooling regulations.

May I start off by saying that my husband and I are both Masters degrees holders. Myself - I have a double major in Biochemistry and Physiology and my husband in Food Biotechnology. We attended prestigious universities in New Zealand and worked for large corporations for many years before starting our own company. We sold one of our brands to a large conglomerate and financially we are very comfortable. We both value education very highly and spare little expense in providing travel and hands on learning opportunities for our two children. Our curriculum is exciting, engaging, relevant, varied and most importantly, of interest to our children. They are self motivated and have a real thirst for learning.

We wholeheartedly disagree that the proposed changes will benefit anyone. Alarmingly they will be detrimental to all homeschooled children and the future of this country.

Our reasons are many but in brief they can be summarised as below:

- 1. We currently tailor our learning modules to suit our children. We choose topics they are interested in because obviously people learn when they are engaged in the subject matter.
- 2. We can be flexible and change tack or pace if our children are not engaged. As children's interest change so too can we modify our original plan to suit the circumstance.
- 3. We can explore topics in greater depth and breadth according to the child's interest. Not done with knowing who the main Greek gods were? Let's research the lesser known ones and see who their Roman counterparts were.
- 4. We can introduce creative teaching methods to avoid dry and wordy and BORING topics and lessons. I often gasped when I look at the textbooks currently used in schools. It's like they tried to make it as boring and plain and unexciting as possible. I put a lot of effort into making my plans as relevant and exciting as possible. We are currently visiting fossil sites in Naracoorte National Park South Australia as we were studying megafauna of Australia last month. Now my children are looking at the actual bones and excavation sites where these discoveries first occurred.

For the above and many other reasons we believe the tailored curriculum that I painstakingly put together for my children is far superior and engaging than the national curriculum. To force us to only use the Australian Curriculum is ludicrous and makes no logical sense at all.

Regards Daphne Raj Mobile

Sent from my iPhone