Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submission EDUCATION (GENERAL PROVISIONS) AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2024

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Overview of concerns about the changes proposed to home education:

submission (I wrote this myself)

I have noticed that you, the Department of Education, want to send me back to conventional school "in the child's best interest." In this case, despite being the age of twelve, I am the child in question. In your own words, you technically said that I, the child, should have a say as to if I want to be sent away. It seems that a whole organization within the government is against my word, but nevertheless, I will continue to fight against this movement.

I was very anxious when I went to school. Now, when I think of going to conventional school, it brings up bad memories. Every day, I begged and begged and begged to stay at home, but it was hopeless. It was very hard on my sanity. Little did I know, this torture wasn't permanent. It all stopped in January of 2020, when I was gifted freedom and priveledge to be homeschooled. Freedom as to when I could do my work, what I wanted to work on, and the ability to connect with others, when and where I wanted to. I loved homeschooling, and I still do. My life is joyful, but because of somebody in the Department of Education, my life could be cursed once again.

I know multiple things that could happen if I am sent to conventional school. For example:

- □ I will have to readapt to the strict and limited environment.
 - All of my interests, hopes and dreams will be dismissed.
- I will be subject to bullying, violence, social manipulation, and other things that I don't really want to talk about that have happened in the past.
- I will be torn from my friends (), my social life and my community of homeschoolers.
 - All the work I have done so far will not be acknowledged.
 - I will not get to learn about my favorite topics.

This is a lot for me to lose. I have worked so, so hard to get to this point. I have learned so many things in so many sectors – English, Mathematics, Science, History, and Geography. I have even learned about computer languages like HTML, Python and Java, not to mention swimming and the viola. I am very proud of my work.

Don't shut me off from the homeschooled life that I love. DO NOT SEND ME BACKWARD. It will ruin my life if you do.