

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1089
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Publication:
Attachments: No attachment
Submitter Comments:

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: Education Bill Letter
Date: Sunday, 24 March 2024 10:41:24 AM

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent education legislation changes that have been proposed in our state. As a constituent and a member of the community, I believe it is crucial to voice my objections to the potential impact of these changes on our education system.

My name is Brooke Bain, we live on a cattle property, and run a business with my in-laws growing and selling cattle in south west Qld and live to far from a school to attend, we have 2 school aged boys in younger grades and 2 more boys under school age, we started out our schooling through a Distance education school, but after 3 terms of crying every day from our son on how much school work was expected of him, he had 10 subjects to complete, with a lot of assessments due weekly, we decided it was best for us to go down the route of schooling through HEU so he could find a love for schooling before it was to late, it has taken us a bit over a year to find something that really works and we now have 2 boys loving school and learning so much, with our main focus, at grades 1 and 2, being maths and English(reading, writing, grammar and punctuation, spelling & literature) with added geography, and art and a project every couple Of months on a topic of their choice to learn about, cooking lessons and a bible study lesson, as well as adding in extra curricular, like swimming lessons, football, cricket and excursions which will then lead to a project on that particular place we went. We believe children at these ages do not need all the extra lessons expected in ACARA, unless it is an interest to them, as Christian's we also believe like everyone else we should have the option to choose what we teach our children and have a say in what they are learning and being taught. Not only do we as homeschoolers not have the support and income to cover the crazy amount of subjects expected like teachers do, but we also have other children to take care of that are not school age. We choose to do one on one schooling so each child gets our full attention and can be taught Each thing before moving on, so we don't move on until they understand what they are learning and we do this As well as keeping Up with every day life. We believe we have the right to have a choice and that we shouldn't be forced into writing plans that will take much longer do, not only for us as parents but also for the HEU staff, and having to do reports that will take along time, and have to teach subjects that we don't think are necessary or appropriate to our children's needs. Our boys do school in the mornings and then get to play outside using their imaginations, they get to help with cattle work, and put their schooling to use, helping count the cattle, reading out weights, loading the tagging device and learning how to organise the cattle and separate them into The correct groups. If we had to follow ACARA, they would no longer have the time to do any of those real life things and learn how our world works outside of lesson books. They also have animals they spend time with and being able to go with their dad to work and learn in the paddock is a skill we want them to have,

but it will be taken away if we have to change how they learn and what they learn.

The proposed legislation raises several pressing concerns that I believe need to be addressed. **Firstly, as stated above forcing children into Following ACARA, as schools do would be detrimental to my children, after experiencing first hand the toll it took on my eldest when he started out in a DE School, he was a shell of himself, he barely smiled, and cried every day, he was miserable and I couldn't stand by and watch what it was doing to him, he only took in a small amount of what was being taught because the work load expected was so high his little brain at 5 was unable to take it all in. Please do what's right and let us as parents choose how to teach our children as we know them best.**

As homeschoolers we also have not been included in any decisions being made, no one consulted with us and we have been left completely out of the loop, with our representatives being excluded. This government keeps going on about including everyone, but they are instead excluding groups and only certain peoples opinions matter, This is not okay. We the people deserve a right to choose.

On top of it all having to do a plan up and report on such a large amount of subjects with multiple children would be insane and not doable at a level required. And our time that went into writing such a large document would take away from Teaching time with our children.

I also want to address where it says about taking away biological sex language and make everything gender neutral, this is not making things equal, as a Christian we don't believe in this, but I also say what other people choose to do is also their choice and I personally cannot change them, so where is the choice for everyone who doesn't agree with This, do we not get the choice to choose, is it a one sided thing where only some can choose. That's not equality, that is forcing us into something we don't believe in. We just want what as parents we know is best for our children. We want the option to choose what is right for our children.

Next I would like to cover how taking away the certificate for registration, takes away our a formal acknowledgement of our children schooling, making it harder to prove our schooling. This is unfair and not okay. If the school system was better set up a lot more people would be sending their children to school, instead the school system is failing our children, hence the need to homeschool. Instead of trying to change the homeschools, you need to change the schooling system.

Moreover, I am worried about the lack of transparency and public consultation surrounding these changes. As a stakeholder in our education system, I believe it is imperative for the voices of educators, parents, students, and community members to be heard and considered in any decision-making process that impacts our ability to educate our children to the highest standard.

In light of these concerns, I urge you to carefully reconsider the proposed education legislation and to prioritize the best interests of our rapidly growing and proactive home educating community. I implore you to advocate for a more inclusive and collaborative approach to policymaking that values input from all stakeholders and

ensures the integrity and quality of our education system.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and for considering my concerns. I look forward to your response on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Brooke Bain

