

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: Reconsidering Homeschooling Legislation: Addressing Real Issues
Date: Sunday, 24 March 2024 11:02:42 AM

Dear Committee members,

I am deeply concerned about the proposed amendments to the education bill that has recently been presented to parliament. As a home educating parent, it sounds like the Queensland Government is extremely unfamiliar with the current home education system and obvious that Queensland has no official state homeschool association.

This new bill raises several pressing questions that I believe need to be addressed. Firstly, clause 19 “home education of a child or young person should be provided in a way that is in the best interests of the child or young person.” The government doesn’t know anything about my child. The Queensland Education system kept telling me that my 12-year-old child’s stress would settle and build resilience, but his learning regressed, and every morning was a struggle to get him to school. My 9-year-old was suffering from high acid levels in his stomach due to the anxiety of the classroom. As a parent of a 9- and 12-year-old child, this decision is made between my husband, myself, and my children. Not the Government.

Secondly, Clause 68 “approved education and training program means – the national school curriculum.” To be honest this is quite laughable. Please show me evidence-based data that proves ACARA is improving critical thinking skills in our young population? Where are the life skills classes teaching my boys how to problem solve, money and time management, emotional resilience and coping with failure? They don’t exist with ACARA. My child is becoming a well-rounded, critical thinker with an incredible work ethic in his home education. At school, he felt stupid, with zero confidence and high anxiety. This is not my son today because I removed him from this environment. Today he participates in small group STEM programs with other members of our community, small group writing and business classes, and building emotional resilience with certified educators. Every morning, my boys wake up excited to start the day and learn new things.

At state school my boys were forced to go through the motions of “learning” and the only outcome they discovered were grades, pressure, and stress. When we began our journey of home schooling, I’ll never forget their excitement “this is science! Why didn’t we get to do this at school?” They discovered the true enjoyment of learning, discussion, and I watched their stress and anxieties disappear.

Have you seen the ever-increasing home school numbers? do you know why these numbers are increasing? have you spoken to any home school families because there are a lot of wonderful families out there willing to share their personal experiences? Instead of changing the rules to try and discourage these numbers from growing, reach out to the home school families to see what is working and how this can be incorporated into the Queensland Education System.

For education to be inclusive of all students, I believe it is important to understand the reasoning behind the education decisions of the families who struggle the most to fit into mainstream education.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns. It is my hope that, going forward, this legislation can suit the needs of all students across Queensland. I look forward to

hearing your response about this important issue.

Sincerely,
Ash and Dallas Cramond

Dallas Cramond

