Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1199

Submitted by:

Publication: Making the submission public but withholding your name

Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I am a homeschool mum, with a bachelor of Education and I am passionate about quality education for our children with an emphasis on wellbeing for the whole child. I use the Australian Curriculum, adapting it to suit my children's specific needs and supplementing with other curriculums that are more engaging or suitable for my children. I have two very bright and engaged children, who are advanced readers for their age and love to engage in learning tasks that are meaningful to them. I have a couple of questions about the proposed changes to Home Education, particularly in regards to the requirement for every student to follow the current Australian curriculum and report on all 7 areas. 1. Can it be advised what evidence has been used to ascertain that the Australian curriculum is currently the best curriculum available in the world to teach every individual child – including children who are either advanced/ gifted or have learning disabilities? 2. Can I also be advised how it has been ensured that the Australian curriculum caters for all the individual interests and motivations of every unique home schooler, knowing that engagement is a crucial factor for learning? 3. In any available worldwide studies, are Australian students who utilise the Australian Curriculum currently outperforming their peers in other countries academically, and are rated as having the healthiest well-being compared to other countries?4. Is there any evidence that having homeschool mums who are required to spend more time on paperwork and reporting, correlates with an increase in academic and wellbeing results for their children?5. Will there be recognition of prior learning in a subject area where our child is already well-versed in the content or will they be required to repeat it rather than delve into something new?6. Will it be required to follow the curriculum to the letter or will there be recognition of the need to cater for children's individual needs and interests, diverting away from the Australian curriculum if needed, to ensure the best educational outcomes possible for the child? I appreciate your responses to these enquiries in advance.