

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1215
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Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee Members,

As a concerned citizen deeply invested in the education and well-being of our children, I urge you to reconsider the proposed changes that would require homeschooling families to adhere to the Australian Curriculum and the requirement for parents to prove that home education is in the best interest of the child.

While I acknowledge the importance of ensuring that all children receive a quality education, I believe that imposing rigid curriculum requirements on homeschooling families may overlook the unique strengths and advantages of home education. One of the greatest benefits of homeschooling is the ability to tailor the educational experience to the individual needs, interests, and learning styles of each child. By mandating adherence to the Australian Curriculum, we risk stifling this flexibility and creativity, potentially hindering the academic progress and personal development of homeschooled children.

Furthermore, the requirement for parents to prove that home education is in the best interest of the child introduces unnecessary burdens and obstacles for families who have made a thoughtful and deliberate decision to homeschool. Parents who choose to educate their children at home do so out of a sincere desire to provide the best possible educational experience for their children, and they should not be subjected to additional scrutiny or bureaucratic red tape.

I speak from the perspective of a concerned parent whose child is currently enrolled in mainstream school. While my child benefits from the structured environment and resources provided by the school, I recognize that each family's situation is unique, and homeschooling may be the best option for others. It is essential to preserve the freedom of families to choose the educational path that aligns with their values and circumstances.

Home education offers many benefits that extend beyond academic achievement, including opportunities for character development, family bonding, and the cultivation of critical thinking skills. By preserving the freedom of families to choose home education, we uphold the principles of parental rights and educational diversity, allowing each child to receive an education that aligns with their unique needs and values.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that you will give due consideration to the concerns of families like mine as you evaluate the proposed changes to home education laws.

Sincerely,