

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1239
Submitted by: [REDACTED]
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Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

To the Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee, I am writing to object to the Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Bill 2024 in the current form. I have specific concerns with the implications of Clauses 18, 64 & 68 and I am in support of the Free2homeschool Movement. This will have a direct impact on my family. I am currently homeschooling my young son, and see my son absolutely thriving with the current program and resources we are using, which are American based. I find the program the perfect fit for our family, and the small amount of elements that are not relevant to us in Australia are very easily swapped to an activity/topic that is. I took the choice of curriculum very seriously and considered quite a few, comparing resources with the current Australian curriculum. I made my decision, based on quality of content, the style in which the content is portrayed/communicated for my child to understand and enjoy, the flexibility of going at the pace needed for my child to learn and enjoy learning, and how I could best alter and interchange content to support my child's speech delay. He currently doesn't fit a 'diagnosed' medical reason for homeschooling, but I know he struggles with a number of things that would cause him to fall behind and potentially be bullied by others, so sending him to school is not the best, nor safest option for my son, and I, as a mother, know this, and believe it is my right as a mother to make this decision. I strongly believe that no one will support my child's learning better than me, with the freedom of choice and knowledge of what resources and methods will work best, but if you are restricting our access to the content and interfering in how we can choose and change our curriculum to suit our children - you are not putting the safety of our children and their opportunity to thrive first. With losing the choice of curriculum. I strongly believe these changes are restricting us in our freedom of choice when it comes to educating our children, and will have a detrimental effect on thousands of children across the state. I also believe these changes are leading towards a loss of human rights, with the introduction to be forced to send our children out of our care, into the schooling system, if they do not have a medical reason. Hands off our children. Hands off our homeschooling.