

## Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

**Submission No:** 1263  
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**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

Dear committee, I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent education legislation changes that have been proposed in our state. As an active member of the community, I believe it is crucial to voice my apprehensions about the potential impact of these changes on our education system. I am thanking you for taking the time to listen, very much appreciated. I know several adults that have a history of being home educated, many families who currently homeschool their children, and I am starting to be an active member of this group of our community with my young child. I have thoroughly researched the history and current practices of alternative schooling across the globe. I personally went to state school and was very well suited to the system, yet believe an alternative approach would have also been greatly beneficial to me, if not more so. The proposed legislation raises several pressing concerns that I believe need to be addressed. Firstly, for home education is an alternative to mainstream schooling, the national curriculum needs to stay a flexible and free to use resource, rather than becoming mandatory and to be followed to a T. Quality education can't be defined in one perfect way. Homeschooling has its very value in allowing flexibility, child-led learning tailor made for the individual. There is great appreciation and advantage in being able to focus solely on one subject for a certain time, and neglect all or some others, deep diving into something that sparks passionate interest, following the innate curiosity and creativity of our children, the -future- powerhouses of our communities. I can see the advantages and effectiveness of fanning children's natural occurring fires, letting its growth and development unfold, in their own good time. And of inspiring to engage in other new topics worth learning about when the child is available and ready to do so. Making sure all necessary subjects are covered, yet without rigidity. Please allow homeschooling children to keep up their flexible, wholesome work, nurturing the learning of our children tailored to the individual. Secondly, I need to put forth, that we shall not consider demanding our homeschooling families to show progress in each subject each year, as the new bill proposes. For it would cripple the individually tailor made education that's at the heart of homeschooling, as mentioned above in regards to rigidly sticking to the national curriculum. Furthermore, we certainly do need to continue to be able to register for homeschooling on a provision basis, for it is necessary for families to be able to transition immediately in urgent cases. It is not feasible to plan a full years education over night. Sure enough, most members of our community register well ahead of time and thoroughly planned out, yet we need to allow for flexibility when the well being of our children demands it. Also, as the current regulations appropriately support, we parents need to make the final call which educational pathway is in the best interest of their children, for a parent sees best and is responsible for finding the most suitable way for their children's potential to be unlocked, and therefore become the most valuable members of our community they can be. This awareness of the individual parents is not necessarily always possible to be proven, and can often be based on their intuitive knowing. Neither should anyone of us ever be asked to justify the choices they make for their own families. In light of these concerns, I urge you to carefully reconsider the proposed education legislation and to prioritize the best interests of all our community members, protecting the invaluable flexibility of our homeschooling approach. Allowing tailor made education to bring our youngest generation to its full potential, each and every one of them. Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and for considering my concerns. Sincerely, Saskia