

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1273
Submitted by: Elizabeth Watson
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Submitter Comments:

For the attention of The Committee, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed changes in the Education (General Provision) and Other Legislations Amendment Bill 2024. We are a young family who are excited to commence our homeschooling journey in 2025. We live on a working property and envision creating a lifestyle where learning and play is effortlessly intertwined into our daily lives. With over 14 years of teaching experience, I strongly believe that I can offer a quality education in a safe and loving environment where my children are supported to learn in a way that is responsive to their individual needs, interests and learning styles. As a parent I have many concerns with the proposed new legislation. Firstly, the use of ACARA. Imposing a mandated curriculum fails to recognise the diverse ways children learn. The essence of homeschooling lies in the freedom for children to engage in personalised learning experiences that fosters their creativity, talents, individuality, and natural curiosity. Our children deserve a flexible curriculum that allows for long periods of uninterrupted exploration, research, and investigation. Secondly, I am concerned that parents will be required to prove that homeschooling is in the best interest of their child. It is not clear how, or who will be deciding this. In my opinion the schooling system often fails to provide an environment that caters for all students to grow to their full potential academically, emotionally, or socially. Through my teaching experience I have witnessed the relentless bullying students receive from peers and I do not want that for my own children. My children are neurotypical but not interested in traditional learning. I am concerned that they will be forced into a mainstream schooling setting. I want my children to access a hands-on education in a home environment which is relatable, engaging, and meaningful. I also want to have a say on what my children learn, how they learn it and who they socialise with. Thirdly, the removal of 60 day provisional registration. This will disadvantage many who need to start homeschooling unexpectedly for the wellbeing of their child/ren. In conclusion, I support freedom, choice and simplification from government restrictions and requirements. I support better opportunities for our children to develop in a positive environment where their individual strengths are celebrated daily. Thank you for your time,

Kind regards, Ellie.