

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1296
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Publication: Making the submission public but withholding your name
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I request that you do not make an amendment to Section 7—insert—(da) for chapter 9, part 5, home education of a child or young person should be provided in a way that—(i) is in the best interests of the child or young person taking into account their safety and wellbeing; and (ii) ensures the child or young person receives a high-quality education; This should remain as it currently stands being solely about education and providing that education and not blur that with the best interests and safety and well being of the child. This is an overreach of governmental authority in the lives of families and is not relevant to the evaluation of providing a good quality education. This change displays lack of trust for parents who are prepared to take full responsibility for the education and care of their children. There are processes currently in place to ensure the child is receiving a high quality education. However the proposed change about what is in the best interest of a child and their safety and wellbeing is too subjective, difficult to qualify and judge and extends beyond the scope of providing a quality education. It lends itself to usurping parental authority in decisions about education and what is best for their children. It is best left in child safety legislation and taken out of education legislation. The second amendment that I request you do not make is in relation to removing the use of gendered language within schools and acknowledging wellbeing, inclusion and diversity. Gendered language is an important part of how we communicate and if taken out will create confusion distinguishing gender in conversations especially written conversations. Distinguishing gender in conversation is an important and relevant piece of information to clarify and is important in many behavioural considerations. Furthermore changing the conventions of correct speech is, at best ludicrous and at worst detrimental. Contributing to corrupting identity in developmentally vulnerable groups. Regarding acknowledging wellbeing, inclusion and diversity, it sounds admirable but where diversity has come to mean different sexual bents, this general language needs clarification. Thank you for taking the time to read my submission.