Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitted by:	
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I am writing to express that I do not agree with the proposed legislation of ACARA for homeschooled children.

I am grateful for the ACARA guidelines and I do use them extensively, they are most helpful for me. However, I do believe it should remain as such and not to be legislated.

The Qld Government currently has a HEU department who provides a service to our community, which is the monitoring and overseeing of the quality of education, for children of school age, at home. It is a fair assumption that those who take the time to register and report to the HEU are genuinely doing so in order to provide a quality education for their children. If there is a concern that the education provider is not providing a quality education for their child then the HEU is required to act on that.

So why the need for further legislation? Especially when it is directed at those who are actually showing that they are conscientiously abiding by current requirements and taking all the necessary steps to show that they are serious about giving their children a good education.

I think it is wonderful that we do have a choice on how our children are to be educated and many parents are discovering this and embracing this also. However, I cannot see how standardization of education and making a one-way approach to educate your child can translate to offering a quality education for all. In my opinion, innovation and creativity comes from a more diverse and respectful approach.

It is a minority of people who have decided it is in the best interests of their children to provide an alternative to classrooms. This decision is not an easy one to undertake, it comes with great sacrifice, commitment and so much love. It is also not free. It is concerning that the Qld Government would think that these decisions would be made for reasons that are not in the best interest of the child. How could they even determine that?

I hope you will consider these points when coming to your final evaluations. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to express my concerns regarding the proposed legislation for Home Schooling.