

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1334
Submitted by: Simon Monsour
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Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee Members, As a private tutor to children of all ages, and someone who has worked on many educational and community projects with hundreds of school-aged students from diverse background and lifestyles, both within the Queensland school system and independently, I am writing to express my concern regarding the recent education legislation changes that have been proposed in our state, and feel compelled to comment on homeschooling. Laying to rest my previously held skepticism, the homeschooled students I've associated with over the last few decades were, without question, the most impressive children I have encountered. This is on any relevant measure one might suggest, with the one possible exception being the ability to thrive within a normal school environment. Clearly homeschooling is not suitable or viable for all, but one of the greatest hopes I have had since I was first exposed to these students more than twenty years ago is that the lives of dedicated homeschooling educators would be made easier, and the homeschooling option would be more widely recognized and valued. Any administrative changes that do result in more support for homeschoolers will have my wholehearted support. Changes that make their lives more stressful should be rejected, not only on ethical grounds, but also due to the amount of Queensland grown, exceptionally high academic achievement and productivity that would be jeopardized. As a constituent, a concerned relative and a member of the community, I believe it is crucial to voice my apprehensions about the potential impact of these proposed changes on those students who are flourishing in a homeschooling environment, including both of my nephews. Homeschooling empowers parents and carers to tailor educational experiences that cater to the unique interests, strengths, and learning styles of each child. By mandating adherence to a standardized curriculum, the proposed legislation fails to acknowledge the diverse learning styles and needs of individual children. It risks imposing a one-size-fits-all approach that may not be suitable for all learners. I urge you to carefully reconsider the proposed education legislation and to prioritize the best interests of our students. For education to be inclusive of all students, I believe it is important to understand the reasoning behind the education decisions of the families who struggle the most to fit into mainstream education. Thanks you for hearing my concerns, and I wish you all well in your deliberations. Yours Sincerely, Simon Monsour
Teacher, Producer,
Broadcaster