

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1352
Submitted by: Carlos Tapia
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Brisbane, 18 March 2024

Dear Adrian Schrunner/ Doboy Ward

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent education legislation changes that have been proposed in our state. As a constituent and a 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 an Adjunct Associate Professor at one of the most prestigious Australian Universities worldwide, I hold a PhD in Engineering and I am father of two special kids. During the last years, I have been actively involved in education in Australian developing teaching programs, mentoring and teaching young people based on values, real life experience and practical real-world situations and examples. During my career, I have also trained young engineers based on the same principles.

The proposed legislation raises several pressing concerns that I believe need to be addressed:

1. My academic experience shows that some students require a different education (one-to-one) approach to fully develop their capabilities and allow them to effectively engage within the community and succeed in their professional lives. I firmly believe there is no single or unique learning style that fits all students; on the contrary, the learning style must be fitted to each individual to get the best from their skills and capabilities to enhance the sustainable well-being of each individual and their families.
2. The legislation threatens the fundamental right of freedom of both parents and kids, as the legislation demolishes the option of choosing the education style, turning it into a monopoly. It is the same as saying everybody must be an engineer, as health careers are no longer relevant because they cannot build bridges.
3. It ignores parents' right and legal obligation to make decisions and be responsible for what is best for their children. Instead, this legislation gives the role of parenthood to other aliens that are outside the family nucleus and, without legal and moral responsibility, have the power to make parents' decisions, which is a slavery communist practice, far from what you and your party represent.

Moreover, I am worried about the lack of transparency and public consultation surrounding these changes. As a stakeholder in our education system, I believe it is imperative for the voices of educators, parents, students, and community members to be heard and considered in any decision-making process that impacts our schools.

Additionally, in my academic career I have had to adapt to my students' needs trusting on their commitment and capabilities to learn when it is convenient for them because most of them work to pay for their housing, support their families, build their wealth, serve in the army, practice sports or have artistic commitments. If I'd had a traditional In-class learning style only, most of them would have failed, lost their jobs, games or performances. Thus,

instead of cutting their extra skills and interest, I trusted them and gave them freedom to choose their learning style. It has resulted not only in an excellent academic performance, but also in happy young people, committed to their careers as they could also pursue their interests outside classroom.

Considering these concerns, I urge you to carefully reconsider the proposed education legislation and to prioritise the best interests of our students, teachers, and schools. I request you to advocate for a more inclusive and collaborative approach to policymaking that values input from all stakeholders and ensures the integrity and quality of our education system.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and for considering my concerns. I look forward to your response and to further dialogue on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Dr Carlos Tapia