

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1361
Submitted by: [REDACTED]
Publication: Making the submission public but withholding your name
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee members
Re: Inquiry into Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024
As a homeschooling parent, I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed changes currently under consideration by the Queensland Government. As a homeschooling family we enjoy the freedom to be able to tailor our children's education to their specific needs and requirements. Where a child finds a particular point of interest, we have the ability to encourage and grow this interest. Where a child finds a particular subject hard or challenging, we are able to take our time and ensure that they have a proper and solid base of understanding before moving forward. We do not believe we will have the same freedom if we are tied to the National curriculum. Our eldest child has followed the national curriculum in both a state school and then in a home education setting. We found he was bored and unengaged. His reading and math abilities went backwards once he started traditional public schooling. I wish to clarify that I have no intention of diminishing or showing disrespect towards the existing national curriculum. It is simply not a good fit for either of our children. Being consistent with the national curriculum will only serve to stifle our children's education. It is this flexibility of curriculum that gives many homeschooling kids the opportunity to learn at a much faster pace and enter into tertiary education sooner. It is my understanding that currently university education is able to be used as evidence with HEU. If changes are made to this ability it will only serve to hamper the education of gifted children. Although reporting to the HEU can be a daunting task the first couple of times, as a whole the department has been an absolute pleasure to deal with. You will be hard pressed to find a home education family with a bad word to say about the unit. Any changes to the current system that would serve to burden the unit with additional work would be ill advised, because the current system works. Granting our mode of education may appear different or foreign, even to someone imbedded in the education system, I can assure you that our goal is to provide the best education possible for our children. The current system works well and allows us the freedom to tailor an educate to our children particular needs and abilities. The proposed amendments may be put forward with the best of intentions, but I am concerned that many of them will only serve to limit parents, stifle the education of home school children, and slow down or impede the good work done by the HEU. Thank you for considering my input on this matter. I trust that you will give due attention to these concerns as you continue to review and refine the proposed amendment.
Sincerely,