

## Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

**Submission No:** 1363  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
**Publication:** Making the submission public but withholding your name  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

Dear committee members, I am writing to you with my concerns regarding the proposed amendments to the education bill that has recently been presented to parliament. As a home educating parent, I do not support some of these changes that have been introduced and I am worried about the impact that they will have on my family and the home-schooling community. I am concerned about the proposed requirement of parents to justify the decision to home educate their children. As a home-schooling mother, I place great priority on my child's education. I believe the choice to educate a child at home should remain a valid and legal choice. I am also concerned about the requirement to adhere to the Australian curriculum. My family consists of 2 children currently receiving home education. They are 2 years apart. My eldest likes to focus on a subject and learn it in great detail, while my younger child is a very motivated learner who likes to keep up with her brother. We have been home educating for 3 years. My eldest used the Australian curriculum at school for Prep and Grade 1. This did not work well for him as he was bored with the work given to him and he became disengaged from his learning. After beginning to school at home we also found the Australian curriculum too restrictive. We began researching and trying methods of education and resources from around the world. The flexibility of being able to change plans is valuable to our family. This has led to us finding what works best for our family. Under the current legislation, we have been able to form, and implement high quality education plans that meet each of my children's individual needs and levels of learning. These plans also allow us the practicality of learning as a family group across subjects such as (but not limited to) history, geography, science, technology, art, nature study, foreign languages, life skills and safety. Both of my children are thriving and have a love of learning. To implement the Australian curriculum would require us to separate and isolate our children's learning, to separate and repeat lessons, wasting time that could be spent engaging with the subject more deeply. Education in the home is not trying to replicate the environment of a school. We have found joy in learning a broad variety of subjects and take advantage of learning opportunities both in and outside the home. We enjoy opportunities to join with the local home-school community on excursions, and learning opportunities given by community members and experts in their fields. Often this motivates our children to explore a new area of interest. Enforcing the Australian Curriculum will severely limit this opportunistic learning and stifle the ability for us to form multi-age groups as the topics they will be investigating would be dictated according to their year level. I'm concerned that the legislation has been introduced without proper consultation with current home-schooling families and I hope that you will take my feedback into consideration. 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. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns. It is my hope that, going forward, this legislation can suit the needs of all students across Queensland. I look forward to hearing your response about this important issue. Sincerely