

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1392
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Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee Members, I do not agree that the legislation should include the requirement for those registered to homeschool to follow the national curriculum, there is an abundance of quality educational resources available to homeschoolers and these resources have been getting great results for years. The national curriculum has an unhelpful focus on specific areas, parents should be free to decide when and what they teach their children in areas that are controversial or contain mature concepts. Suggesting that each registered student submit more than double the work samples, while the department is not able to respond to submissions and applications in a timely matter currently is unprofessional, at best! The changes to the legislation that will affect the homeschooling community are significant and there has not been adequate consultation. In almost every single case the parent/s has the 'best interest of the child' as their priority, including this wording in the legislation (without details on the definition/criteria or authority involved) is insulting to thousands of parents who home educate. These changes are likely to discourage otherwise law-abiding parents from registering with HEU, and they may find themselves considering alternatives (to registration). The outcomes for homeschoolers speak for themselves, please concentrate on fixing the issues in the state system. None of us had time to have this conversation, we'd all like to get on with life! Kind Regards, David Todd