

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

**Submission No:** 1431  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
**Publication:** Making the submission public but withholding your name  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

To the Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee, I am writing to object to the Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Bill 2024 in the current form. I have specific concerns with the implications of Clause 68. I am a homeschooling parent who has been around many other Queensland homeschooling families in the past 14+ years. We all homeschool a little (or a lot) differently from one another, yet we all care very deeply for our children's education and wellbeing. I cannot think of one family who would willingly adhere to ACARA as proposed. This would be detrimental for so many who have been successfully educating their children as individuals. Speaking for my own three children I can say that none of them have been schooled using the national curriculum. My oldest two children eventually transitioned from a homeschooling background that was fairly relaxed to a distance education program that was quite rigorous. One of them has graduated and is now in his second year of university studies. The second will sit year 12 exams this year and also plans to go on to university. They have proven themselves to be enthusiastic and engaged learners and I believe having a learning lifestyle and curriculum chosen for their individual needs has set them up well on their current pathways. My youngest is continuing to homeschool and it remains to be seen whether he will choose to be like his siblings and transfer to distance education for his final years, or go down another pathway toward further learning, such as beginning Open University courses, TAFE, or an apprenticeship. He has time to figure that out. Time may be the key point I'd like to make: Our kids—all kids—need time. Time to be kids, time with both family and friends, time to find out who they are and what motivates them, time given to them one-on-one by parents who have loved and valued them as individuals from birth. For many homeschooling families this is what motivates us: knowing deep down that our kids need more time and individual attention than they would get in a classroom; the chance to learn and grow on a timeline that might not look like what ACARA proposes. Whether that means slowing down or accelerating to meet each child where they are. The proposed changes calling for alignment to ACARA standards and reporting on all areas will take away valuable time from many parents and children who are homeschooling well as it is. Moreover I wonder where the already overstretched Home Education Unit would find the time to appropriately review these proposed reporting requirements. Thank you for taking the time to read this. I would urge you to take further time to consider the opinions of those of us actually part of the diverse and thriving homeschooling community here in Queensland.