

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitter Comments:

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent education legislation changes that have been proposed in our state. As a constituent, a concerned Grandmother, a long-time homeschooler and a member of the community, I believe it is crucial to voice my apprehensions about the potential impact of these changes on my grandchild.

The proposed legislation raises several pressing concerns that I believe need to be addressed. Firstly, the proposed changes will substantially increase the workload for the parents teaching and supervising children's learning. The use of the ACARA curriculum places an unnecessary burden on parents to research and read a document that was designed for classroom learning and typical teaching methods. A homeschool environment is neither of these things. The time required to teach 8 different subjects and to report on every subject could be better spent on teaching to a child's personal needs and focussing on subjects that will interest and engage the child while still achieving the goal of a high-quality education.

Secondly, the proposed changes will not be flexible enough to take in individual needs and learning style. My granddaughter has various learning differences, and the school system was not able to adequately cater for these. I feel the new legislation has the potential to force children back into a system that is not suited to individualised learning the way homeschooling is.

I'm concerned that the legislation has been introduced without proper consultation with current homeschooling families and I hope that you will take my feedback into consideration. In light of these concerns, I urge you to carefully reconsider the proposed education legislation and to prioritise the best interests of our students. 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,

Jo-Anne Dixon