

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1503
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Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee members,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent education legislation changes that have been proposed in our state. As a constituent and a member of the community, I believe it is crucial to voice my objections to the potential impact of these changes on our education system.

I am a stay home mum of 3 beautiful children, two of which are home schooled and of whom have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, high anxiety, selective mutism and more, that both benefit so much of being taught out of our main stream schools.

The proposed legislation raises several pressing concerns that I believe need to be addressed. Schools are failing a lot of children in my children whom benefit from being taught at home due to the amount of bullying from both the children and teachers at main stream schools. They learn, concentrate and function to the best of their ability from being in a relaxed, quiet and chilled environment where they are given respect and treated like human beings and they can learn outside the box as they are being left behind and forgotten in their learning at main stream schools. Forcing families who have specially crafted, individualised learning plans for their children to revert to 'normal, planned learning' is a huge step backward in the quality of education for these students.

Moreover, I am worried about the lack of transparency and public consultation surrounding these changes. As a stakeholder in our education system, I believe the voices of educators, parents, students and community members must be heard and considered in any decision-making process that impacts our ability to educate our children to the highest standard.

In light of these concerns, I urge you to carefully reconsider the proposed education legislation and to prioritize the best interests of our rapidly growing and proactive home educating community. I implore you to advocate for a more inclusive and collaborative approach to policy making that values input from all stakeholders and ensures the integrity and quality of our education system.

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission and for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Tamara Challen