

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

**Submission No:** 1512  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
**Publication:** Making the submission public but withholding your name  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

I am 14 years old. When I was in primary I got lots of support from the special education unit. When I had to go to high school there was no where for me to go who had enough supports for me and the special high refused to let me go. I need lots of help with school. I have disabilities and spent lots of time in hospitals. I tried a flexi high school and got bullied all the time. I had broken bones and lots of pushing and tripping me. I did not want to go to school. School said I would never learn more than I did then. Mum is a teacher and she knows better. My mum and dad said I could homeschool. I like home school because I can learn at my own place. Sometimes I need to do something lots and lots of times to get it. I need to do things with pictures and touching to learn. This disturbs the other kids and they bullied me. Now it doesn't matter. I am learning to cook and budget. I help with shopping and cleaning. My reading is getting much better now because I can read books at my level without being teased, or I can get audio books and follow the words. I like listening to books and podcasts in the car too. My maths and English on my program is much better. There are so many places I can go to learn from like museums and art gallery, marine centre, library and from older people in the community. Lots of these are open in the day and I can't go if I was at school. I like going to the beach and looking to see what's in the rock pools. And watching the tides and what washes up. Me and mum look up the seed pods to see what trees they are and look up what shells we find. I like reading under the trees in the fresh air. I feel safe now. I like it at home where it is calm, and I can get help when I need it or work alone sometimes too. I like watching David Attenborough to learn about the animals and the history channel has good shows about the old days and the wars. I feel much safer at home because I'm not getting hurt anymore and I can be myself. I don't have to hide anymore to stop people hurting me. School is not stressful anymore. It's fun. I tell mum things I want to learn about and we go looking together like when I did a project on grasshoppers, and a big project on the hospital museum. The volunteers liked my project so much they displayed it. That has never happened to me before. I feel like I did a good job on that project. I am learning to sew: I got some help to write a business plan and I'm starting business with my sewing. This helps my maths for measuring and budgeting, my English for speaking to customers and describing my products. It helps my life skills by helping me get job skills and giving me independence. I could not do this type of learning if mum had to follow the national curriculum because there is too many subjects for me and my abilities. We like doing projects that interest me and help me to learn how to do things for myself. Recently I went on a homeschool with other homeschool kids. We learned how to set up a tent, make new friends, play games together and we visited a marine animal museum with lots of fish skeletons, coral and stars. We learned how to look after the ocean and how to handle the animals in the rock pools but I bust was I made some friends. Homeschool my way is much better for my well-being, my family and my learning. Please don't stop us from doing school in a way that helps me learn. I don't want to go back to sitting a box all day and being bullied because I don't understand what they are doing or because I'm so far behind everyone else. Homeschooling with mum I am catching up. My disabilities make me special not dumb.