

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitter Comments:

I am writing to express my disappointment and opposition to the proposed changes in home schooling, particularly the requirement to follow the Australian curriculum. What's my experience you may ask, to make that statement. I have a grandchild who went through main stream school curriculum to grade 12, she struggled, had no confidence, and was picked on for her standard at school. Now I also have a grandchild who is in grade 7, went to main stream school curriculum for a number of years, was getting support at school though it is the same curriculum so to no avail, she felt isolated and different and wasn't able to understand. Her mother took things into her own hands, being a teacher she had my granddaughter tested and felt the school had failed at her learning needs. She took her out of school and has been doing homeschooling now for 5 years with a different curriculum, one suited to her at her pace. She has come up to standard of her peers, this has given her confidence and obviously she will be able to fit into life much easier, all achieved by homeschooling and the different curriculum. As you can see children are thriving in a different environment and curriculum. Why would you want to change success. The parents who have chosen this type of learning, which I feel is admirable, for reasons of social, behavioral, and educational needs, as well as economic, they have looked at how they can best serve their children in learning. I have seen many home schoolers through my family and am amazed, and proud to see them thriving, well adjusted, confident, and doing all the social aspects of catching up with friends and sport. I sincerely wish I had the opportunity to learn in such a different format, my life may have been different. Why are you trying to take away an individual's choice to an education that is best suited for them, isn't that what a democracy is all about, freedom of choice. Maybe concentrate on fixing the system in place instead of trying to change the Home Schooling curriculum, to come into line with the system that is broken and not catering to all children's needs. Let these children thrive and learn in the educational model that suits their needs. Please consider my opinion, as we are not all the same, and should have a choice.