

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitter Comments:

I wish to comment on the proposed changes to Queensland homeschooling as I believe this move is detrimental to children and families. I was homeschooled up to Year 9 and each of my five siblings have at some point been homeschooled, too. Being homeschooled meant more freedom to focus on subjects that interested us, time to learn skills from people we knew, flexibility to study in the sunshine and exercise when we needed to. It also helped my family finances, as we grew up with very little money and school fees are costly. I and two of my siblings have completed university degrees and work professional jobs, one has served in the military for 15 years, one owns a business. None of us are socially awkward, having had various social activities such as Girl Guides and sporting club membership to give us additional social interaction while we were homeschooled. We have not been 'held back' by our times of home schooling and I believe such is the case for thousands of other children across Queensland. Families I know homeschool their children and I see great creativity and progress in their learning. They are well-rounded and polite children who respect their elders and who participate actively in society. Please do not force families to educate their children in the same way as schools. Homeschooling offers an alternative that is necessary as people are individuals and having different learning styles and educational needs. Formal schooling in institutions does not allow this flexibility and children can fall behind or drop out entirely. Please allow parents to choose the best option for their own children.