Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1562

Submitted by:

Publication: Making the submission public but withholding your name

Attachments: See attachment

Submitter Comments:

To the Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee,

I am a Queensland registered teacher with classroom experience across Grades 9-12. I have taught and written curriculum based on 20 years worth of QCAA-released syllabi in English, Essential English, Drama, Religion and Ethics, Drama in Action, and various other subject areas. I have worked in Distance Education, having been employed by a non-state school distance education provider, thus been accountable to NSSAB etc. in order to demonstrate that the programs our school were offering lined-up with the expectations of the government. I am writing to object to the Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Bill 2024 as it is currently written. I have specific concerns with the implications of Clauses 18, 64 & 68.

I hold a Masters in Counseling having worked for some eight years with children and young people; individually and within their family unit. I have contributed to a variety of contexts as a counselor- schools, privately-run organisations, as well as our own counseling practice. I object to the Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Bill 2024 as it is currently written.

I am a born again Bible-living Christian who believes that the education of a young person encompasses their areas of gifting, their passions, their pursuits, taking into consideration societal trends. I object to the Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Bill 2024 as it is currently written.

I am in support of the Free2homeschool Movement for reasons that can be seen in each of these aspects of our own family's story:

- The formal education of our children was begun with a Distance Education provider.
 We found topics explored irrelevant to our own lives in 60% of cases. We found the assessment load excessive. We found that our children were satisfying standards of the Australian Curriculum at varying grade levels.
- Since enrolling with HEU we have seen the variance of grade levels that our children satisfy has widened significantly, thus we are utilising curriculum resources that cater to a broad range of ages and stages of education.
- Pursuing their passions and areas of gifting, I have found we spend hours each
 week immersed in all sorts of topics including History, Geography, PDHPE, Marine
 Biology, Anthropology, Civics and Citizenship, English, Economics, Business and
 Entrepreneurial studies, Mathematics, Chemistry, Studies of Ethics, Physics,
 Marketing, Geology and religious exploration.
- Not having to complete assessments or submit to a middle-man who reports to the
 government on our behalf, we find we have more time. With this time we have been
 able to explore and experiment taking the Australian Curriculum into consideration.
 We draw from a range of resources facilitating their starting and running their own

business for the last three years, training as elite and advanced level athletes, engaging in the Arts all throughout the year, and enjoying hobbies rarely seen at their ages.

The freedom that our family enjoys and utilises, makes all of the above possible. And, we are grateful for having lived it so far. I would ask that the proposed changes as they stand, do not go ahead as they jeopardise much of the flourishing and growth our family has come to enjoy in educating our children.

Thank you,
A QLD'er Homeschooling Mother