

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1604
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Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee Members, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed changes in homeschooling legislation, particularly the requirement to follow a specific curriculum. As a homeschooling parent, I firmly believe that these changes would undermine the very reasons why many families, including mine, have chosen homeschooling as the preferred mode of education for our children. My son did 2 years at school following the curriculum, it did not work for my son, he still couldn't read, had developed a massive self hatred for himself because he could not read and write, the school could not see his strengths and put him down because of his struggles, he copped relentless bullying and in his first 2 weeks of prep was physically assaulted and nothing was done by the school, this is my 3rd year homeschooling my children and my son has grown so much, he can recognise letters and is closer to reading now than he was at school, homeschooling saved my son, catering to my sons needs saved my son, something that main stream school could not achieve.

The essence of homeschooling lies in the freedom it affords children to learn in a manner that aligns with their individual interests, abilities, and learning styles. By imposing a mandated curriculum, these proposed changes would impede my children's autonomy and hinder their ability to pursue education in a way that best suits their needs. One of the primary motivations for homeschooling is to provide our children with a personalized learning experience that fosters their intellectual curiosity and allows them to learn at their own pace. These new regulations threaten to restrict this flexibility and stifle their natural inclination to explore and discover the world around them. Furthermore, enforcing a standardized curriculum fails to recognize the diverse interests and talents of homeschooling students. It overlooks the fact that every child is unique and may thrive in different subject areas or learning environments. By imposing rigid educational requirements, we risk depriving our children of the opportunity to pursue their passions and develop their full potential. In essence, these proposed changes would not only undermine the fundamental principles of homeschooling but also limit my children's ability to learn and grow in a way that honors their individuality and creativity. As a homeschooling parent deeply invested in my children's education, I urge the committee to reconsider these restrictive measures and instead focus on supporting families in providing a rich and diverse educational experience tailored to the needs of each child. Thank you for considering my concerns. Sincerely, Natalie Fahey A homeschooling parent