

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

**Submission No:** 1614  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
**Publication:** Making the submission public but withholding your name  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

Subject: Concerns Regarding Proposed Changes to Home Education To the Queensland Parliament Committee on Education, As a public school graduate and enrolled university student, I wish to express my heartfelt concerns regarding the proposed amendments to the Education (General Provisions) Act (EGPA) concerning home education.

- Lack of Consultation:** It appears that the proposed changes were introduced following a broad review of Queensland's legislation. However, it is essential to recognize that the voices of homeschooling families were not adequately heard during this process. As an avid learner, I value transparency and meaningful consultation. It is crucial that any modifications to the EGPA consider the perspectives of those directly affected—the students and their families.
- Individualized Learning:** Homeschooling provides a unique opportunity for personalized, flexible learning experiences tailored to each student's needs. The proposed requirement to follow the Australian Curriculum may hinder this individualization. While I appreciate the need for standards, rigid adherence to a centralized curriculum might stifle creativity, exploration, and the pursuit of unique interests. I know I would've greatly benefited from home, specialised learning. I have struggled with mental health since high school. Only now being diagnosed with ADHD, severe anxiety and asd at 28years old. The public system missed it, my parents weren't worried as they weren't told to, and I was left to cope on my own. The mental health rate of children IN PUBLIC Zander PRIVATE schooling is rising dramatically. Can we please touch on that, and how we can work proactively to solve it. Not only in home education, but in all schooling.
- Safety and Well-Being:** The legislation rightly emphasizes that home education must be provided in the best interests of the child or young person, considering their safety and well-being. As a homeschooler, I believe this principle is paramount. However, it is essential to strike a balance between ensuring safety and allowing families the autonomy to choose educational approaches that align with their values and circumstances.
- Red Tape and Streamlining:** While streamlining laws is commendable, we must be cautious not to burden homeschooling families with unnecessary bureaucracy. The proposed changes should simplify processes without compromising our ability to provide quality education. Let us ensure that administrative requirements do not overshadow the joy of learning.
- Appeal Rights for Short-Term Suspensions:** I appreciate the provision for appeal rights in cases of short-term suspensions. However, let us ensure that these rights are accessible and transparent. Students and parents should feel empowered to advocate for fair treatment and due process.

In conclusion, I urge the Queensland Government to engage directly with homeschooling families, including young learners, before finalising any changes to the EGPA. Let us create a supportive environment that values choice, safety, and holistic development. Our education system should empower us to become informed, engaged citizens, regardless of where we learn. Thank you for considering my perspective.

Note: I found it very disappointing that I found out about this amendment through word of mouth. Many home educators haven't even been told about this bill, with zero contact being made on the governments behalf. It is quite negligent of the committee to ignore home educators and exclude them from amendments such as these which will GREATLY affect them and there teaching abilities. [REDACTED]