Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1619

Submitted by: Louie Johnston

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Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

Dear Esteemed Committee Members, I am writing to you today with a sense of urgency and concern regarding the proposed Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024, specifically focusing on Clause 68 and the incorporation of Section 7(da). As a parent deeply committed to the educational journey of my children, I wish to express the profound impact these proposed changes could have on homeschooling families across Queensland, including my own. Homeschooling, a deliberate choice born out of careful consideration, offers a unique and tailored approach to education that has yielded remarkable results for many families. Central to my apprehensions is the prospect of imposing a standardized curriculum, which runs counter to the fundamental principles of homeschooling. This flexible educational model has enabled my children to thrive academically and personally by allowing them to pursue their interests and learn at their own pace. For instance, my son's fervent interest in Japanese culture has led to the exploration of a language and culture that may not have been accessible within the confines of a conventional curriculum. Moreover, homeschooling has provided an environment conducive to fostering critical thinking, creativity, and innovation—qualities essential for success in the 21st century. By nurturing a love for learning and encouraging independent inquiry, homeschooling equips children with the skills necessary to navigate an ever-evolving global landscape. It is imperative to recognize that homeschooling is not merely an alternative to traditional education but a valid choice that empowers parents to actively participate in their children's educational journey. The proposed legislation, with its increased reporting requirements and vague language in Section 7(da), threatens to undermine this autonomy and stifle the diverse educational experiences that homeschooling offers. As we strive to cultivate a society that values diversity, creativity, and individuality, it is crucial to safeguard the rights of homeschooling families to provide a rich and fulfilling educational experience for their children. Rather than imposing restrictive measures, I urge you to consider policies that support and nurture the diverse educational landscape of Queensland. In conclusion, I implore you to approach this legislation with careful consideration for the voices of concerned parents and the long-term well-being of our children. Let us work together to create an educational framework that celebrates diversity, fosters innovation, and empowers families to provide the best possible education for their children. Thank you for your attention to this matter.Sincerely,Louie Johnston