

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitter Comments:

To the Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee, I am writing to object to the Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Bill 2024 in the current form. I am in support of freedom of education choice for Queensland families which includes freedom to homeschool.

By adding the requirement that home education should be provided in the best interest of the child, I ask who will decide this? This decision is for parents and NOT for government. This removes the freedom of education choice. The government is discriminating against homeschooling families and this is unexceptable. To say homeschooling families must demonstrate why this quality educational choice is in the best interests of the child when families who make a different choice are not required to this. It is evident to everyone that public schooling is not providing good educational outcomes and is letting many Queensland children down. It does not serve the child who is advancing at a faster rate than their peers and it does not serve the child who is failing and falling behind. Instead far too many fall through the cracks and never recover to meet their potential. What a tragedy this is. I submit to you that the Queensland Education Department should be required to prove in writing that public school is in the best interests of any child who is to be enrolled there. The parents who make the quality choice to homeschool their children are taking responsibility and this includes financial responsibility. Homeschooled children DO NOT receive any funding from government and as such I believe the government SHOULD NOT be assuming they are responsible. They clearly are not. Restricting families in their freedom of choice when it comes to educating their children will have a detrimental effect on thousands of children across the state.