


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

**Submission No:** 1670  
**Submitted by:**   
**Publication:** Making the submission public but withholding your name  
**Attachments:** See attachment  
**Submitter Comments:**

XXXXXX

XXXX Kingaroy. RE: proposed changes to Home Schooling

Dear Mrs Frecklington,

I am writing in support of a number of parents in my congregation who choose to home school their children and are concerned about the proposed changes to the home schooling system. Namely to enforce the so called National curriculum upon home schooling system.

I am quite familiar with the modes of education in Australia, having a number of my own family members as professional educators and myself have worked for the Scots College in Sydney at one time.

Firstly, it is of concern that home educators will need *to give evidence* that choosing to home educate their children is in the best interest of their child. Strange that parents who send their kids to State Schools or Private Schools do not need to give evidence that this is the best choice for their child. What does best interest mean, how is it defined who will be responsible to assess why a parent justifies their position. It is an unfair requirement that home educators must justify their parental decisions to 'big' government and to Social Engineers while non-home educators don't.

I would commend the Home School arrangements as they currently exist. And largely due to the merits and good outcomes I have observed. Within my own congregation I can identify a number of youth who will certainly go on to University and they are equal in numbers between the State, Private and Home Schooling options. There appears to be no obstacle from home schooling toward higher education. My own observation of home schooling is that these children tend to achieve more with their time where they are not distracted by the constant disciplinary actions and violence which I observe in the mainstream schooling system. Why mess with what's not broken in Home schooling. Government might better spend its efforts on correcting discipline issues in mainstream schooling. If that were done we wouldn't have a youth crime problem in QLD. Parental fears about bullying and violence, and poorer outcomes in mainstream schools is a large part of why they do not want to participate in Private and State Schools in the first place.

A concern of the QLD Ed is the increasing number of parents choosing to be home educators. Doesn't this indicate a problem in State Based education rather than a problem in home schooling.

Further, I would question that the National Curriculum has not served Australia particularly well. While a cobbled together system does exist in some form (my own family members who have worked in NSW and QLD can confirm that there are great inconsistencies in the so called Nation Curriculum. So whose version of a National curriculum is to be applied to home schooling in QLD is a question in itself. NAPLAN has

demonstrated that our National Curriculum is placing us further and further behind against nations like tiny Singapore in English, Maths and Science. What's so good about the National Curriculum anyway?

The qld ed department think that because 20% of home educators choose to use the National Curriculum that it is therefore a preferred option. It should be pointed out that 80% of Parent educators choose not to use the National Curriculum and that some are concerned to use the National Curriculum because of the Social Engineering elements within the National Curriculum.

To address some of the extraneous issues that have been posited: It was sensationally suggested that Home Schooling triggered or posed a suicide threat that might have been picked up if children had been mainstreamed schooled. An outrageous claim considering the number of children who have sadly perished in mainstream schools in the South Burnett let alone on a national scale. Suicide is an issue much larger than where one is schooled, this is not a home ed issue but a department of child welfare issue.

The home school system isn't broken, proof has been given that it is delivering a high quality education to our children and that it is for their well being...so why overhaul the system?

In summary:

The Home Education system is working well already

Home Ed children are not disadvantaged socially nor educationally

Are problems in mainstream schools a part of the youth crime epidemic

Our National Curriculum is failing us as we fall behind against other the OECD countries

Too much Social Engineering, too little education in State schools

Parents are the best judge of their child's best interests

The proposed changes are evidence of "Big Government" imposition on citizens

*signed*