

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1691
Submitted by: [REDACTED]
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Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee, I am writing to you to express my concern in regards to the proposed changes to the home education system. I am a former primary school teacher with a Graduate Diploma of Education (Prep to Year 7) who was registered with the Queensland College of Teachers. I decided to let my registration lapse after my husband and I decided that home education was the best option for our children. The current Australian Curriculum, with its rigid structure and overcrowded content, often fails to resonate with many children and can lead to disengagement from the learning process. It is evident that a one-size-fits-all approach does not effectively cater to the unique learning styles, interests, and abilities of every student. When I was teaching in the school classroom, I was often frustrated at the lack of time I had to spend on basic literacy and numeracy skills with my students due to the sheer volume of content that was expected to be covered. During assessments, I often felt great concern for my anxious students who were having to be assessed on areas which I personally felt we had not had enough time to teach and review. This situation was evidently made worse for any students who had been absent from school due to illness. Today I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed changes in home education legislation, particularly the requirement to follow a specific curriculum. As a dedicated home educator, I firmly believe that these changes would undermine the very reasons why many families, including mine, have chosen home education as the preferred mode of education for our children. The essence of home education 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 home education is to provide our children with a personalised 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 standardised curriculum fails to recognise the diverse interests and talents of home educated 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, I feel that these proposed changes would not only undermine the fundamental principles of home education, but also limit my children's ability to learn and grow in a way that honours their individuality and creativity. As a home educator, 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 your time in considering my concerns. Sincerely, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Former Primary School Teacher and Current Home Education Parent