

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1692
Submitted by: [REDACTED]
Publication: Making the submission public but withholding your name
Attachments: See attachment
Submitter Comments:

Dear Ms Farmer,

I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed amendments to the Education (General Provisions) and other Legislation amendment Bill 2024 currently under consideration. As a parent of neurodivergent children, I believe these amendments pose significant risks to their education and well-being, and I urge you to reconsider them in light of the following concerns:

- 1. Inflexibility of the Australian Curriculum:** One of my primary concerns with the proposed amendments is the requirement to use the Australian curriculum. While I understand the importance of having a standardized curriculum, this approach does not suit the unique needs of neurodivergent children like mine. For my family, the flexibility that homeschooling offers is essential for engaging their interests and providing them with a quality education tailored to their individual needs. Mandating the use of the Australian curriculum would limit our ability to adapt their education in a way that best supports their learning and development.
- 2. Onerous Reporting Requirements:** Another concern I have is the proposed requirement to report on all subject areas. Neurodivergent children often have strengths and interests that may not align with traditional academic subjects. Forcing families to report on every subject area could be unnecessarily burdensome and may not accurately reflect the progress and achievements of neurodivergent learners. This requirement could also place additional stress on families already navigating the challenges of supporting their children's unique educational needs.
- 3. Detrimental Impact on Education Quality:** Implementing these changes would undoubtedly have a detrimental impact on the quality of education my children receive. By imposing rigid curriculum requirements and burdensome reporting obligations, these amendments would restrict our ability to provide a tailored and supportive learning environment for our neurodivergent children. As a result, their educational experiences would be compromised, potentially hindering their academic progress and overall well-being.

In conclusion, I strongly urge the members of the Education, Employment, Training, and Skills Committee to reconsider the proposed amendments to the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006. Instead of imposing one-size-fits-all regulations, I encourage you to prioritize flexibility and support for families with neurodivergent children, ensuring that they have the autonomy to provide a quality education that meets their unique needs.

Thank you for considering my objections, and I hope that you will take the necessary steps to protect the rights and interests of neurodivergent children and their families.

Sincerely,

