

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

**Submission No:** 1733  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
**Publication:** Making the submission public but withholding your name  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee, The following is my submission regarding the proposed amendments to the 2006 QLD Education Bill which have recently been presented to parliament. As a home educating parent, I do not support some of these changes, and am concerned about the impact they will have on my family and the wider homeschooling community. I am particularly concerned about the portion of the bill which narrowly defines how children can be taught at home - that it must be "consistent with an approved education and training program". It then goes on to define exactly what "an approved education and training program" is. Namely: (a) the national school curriculum (known as the Australian Curriculum) (i) developed and administered by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority established under the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority Act 2008 (Cwlth), section 5; etc. In other words, the flexibility home school providers once had to design a curriculum they deemed to be most beneficial to the intellectual growth and wellbeing of their child/student will effectively be stripped with the adoption of this bill.

Furthermore, "setting out a new guiding principle providing that home education should be provided in a way that is in the best interests of the child or young person, taking into account the child's safety, wellbeing and access to a high-quality education" is a vague clause which calls for classification and consultation with the wider public. While it is clearly important to protect children from unsafe situations at home, it is also important that such stipulations are worded in a way which cannot potentially be weaponised against parents on political, ideological, or religious grounds. Finally, the intent of the bill to eliminate "gendered language" from education is ideologically-driven. The ideology in question is not one that all Australian parents are currently on board with, or wish for their children to be subscribed to. As Australia is still a "free nation" (in theory), it is important to recognise that any attempt to push forth leftist viewpoints into the public or home education systems is a case of gross governmental misconduct and overreach which will be met with resistance. How this bill directly affects my family: I am concerned that the legislation has been introduced without proper consultation with current homeschooling families and I hope that you will take my feedback into consideration. For education to be inclusive of all students, I believe it is important to understand the reasoning behind the education decisions of the families who struggle the most to fit into mainstream education. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns. It is my hope that, going forward, this legislation can suit the needs of all students across Queensland. I look forward to hearing your response about this important issue. Sincerely, [REDACTED]