Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitted by:	Rebekah Mulholland
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From:	
To:	Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee
Subject:	Changes to Home Education
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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 have specific concerns with the implications of Clauses 18, 64 & 68 and I am in support of the Free2homeschool Movement.

This will have a direct impact on restricting homeschooling families in their freedom of choice when it comes to educating their children, therefore having a detrimental effect on thousands of children across the state.

As a family we have seen the benefits of home education repeatedly for the last decade. All three of our children have been homeschooled for the entirety of their education. I am a Qld trained Special Needs and Primary School teacher and my husband is a trained teacher and school leader also. We have seen the Australian Curriculum and it's implementation up close and we strongly believe that using a wide range of resources (often outside of the scope of the Australian Curriculum) as well as individually designed and sourced student programs for our children provides far superior educational experiences and learning outcomes. Our daughter did not enjoy writing. We followed the Australian Curriculum for a time and even joined distance education. Once we left this behind and embarked on a journey to meet the educational needs of our daughter using alternative curriculum she flourished. At the age of 14 she is currently writing her third novel.

As a teacher I understand that we attend university and study to implement this curriculum. To think that parents should be expected to implement this curriculum is outrageous. There is no need to limit parents in such a manner. As you will have discovered, parents who home educate do not do so because they are lazy. It is because they are passionate. They are passionate about their children and the opportunities they provide for them. The easy option would be to put their kids in school. Parents have special insight into their children and their learning. We research and we spend precious finance to access materials and curriculum that will really benefit our young people and set them up for success. Please do not limit our ability to do this by enforcing the implementation of a curriculum that was designed for implementation with classes of 20-30 students.

Kind regards, Rebekah Mulholland



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