

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitted by: [REDACTED]
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Submitter Comments:

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: I object to the proposed amendments to the Education General Provisions and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024
Date: Sunday, 24 March 2024 6:25:29 PM

To the Committee,

I wish to have it known that I object to the proposed amendments to the proposed changes of the Education General Provisions and Other Legislation Amendment Bill and if my feedback is published publicly I do not consent to my personal details and name being used.

I decided to pursue homeschooling for the following reasons:

- I wish to have the ability to provide my child with a thorough and complete education of my choice. As a parent, I believe in creating a well-functioning and well educated adult who can contribute to society.
- I wish to have the flexibility to educate my child in a way that is beneficial to them and at their pace to support their learning style and not push them in a singular way that will create barriers to learning.
- I have lost faith in the Government and do not trust that they have my child's best interests at heart.
 - o After how COVID was managed and children were vaccinated against their parents wishes during this process.
 - o I do not support GP's working within schools to provide medical care to children without the knowledge or consent of their parents.
<https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/national/queensland/doctors-to-be-based-at-50-queensland-schools-in-2022-pilot-program-20211013-p58zhv.html>
 - o It is impossible to find out if the school I am sending my child to runs the 'Safe Schools Program'. I do not support the content of this program being taught to my child.
 - o I do not support the gender confusion movement that is being supported by the Australian Government.

I refer to the media statement by the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice, the Honourable Di Farmer, published Wednesday, 06 March, 2024 at 03:28 PM on this Queensland Government website <https://statements.qld.gov.au/statements/99849>

“With the almost tripling of students being homeschooled since COVID, the legislation will require home education to be provided in a way that is in the best interests of the child or young person, taking into account their safety and wellbeing. Including the requirement to follow the Australian Curriculum.”

There are a few questions that come to me from reading this.

1. If the number of children being homeschooled since COVID is close to triple when compared to pre-COVID, what action has the Queensland Government taken to survey parents to understand their decision to homeschool?
2. “The legislation will require home education to be provided in a way that is in the best interests of the child”. What is meant by this statement?
3. The above statement implies that the Queensland Government has a belief that homeschooled children are not receiving education that is in their best interests. What action has the Queensland Government taken to understand the level of education being provided to home schooled children?
4. Is the Queensland Government trying to replace the role of parents? i.e. deciding the best interests for children.

I refer to further quotes from the minister:

“With the increase in the number of families choosing home schooling, we need to make sure that the interests of the student are the priority especially in regard to their well-being and safety and this is what this legislation will do.”

5. Explain what is meant by “we need to make sure that the interests of the student are the priority especially in regard to their well-being and safety”?

6. Explain to me how sending my child to a school will ensure their well-being and safety? Please refer to this article

(<https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/national/queensland/qld-teacher-accused-of-abusing-year-1-girls-charged-with-more-than-200-offences-20231120-p5ele5.html>)

outlining how a Queensland teacher accused of abusing 24 girls in Year 1 has been charged with more than 200 offences. The man was charged with offences including 26 counts of taking a child for an immoral purpose, 61 counts of involving a child in making child exploitation material and more than 60 counts of indecent treatment. He was also charged with more than 40 counts of making child exploitation material and seven counts of using a carriage service to access child abuse material.

I also wish it known that homeschooling a child is a massive responsibility and one that is actually a privilege. There are Pros and Cons that I will list for you:

Cons

- parent is an unpaid teacher
- the parent doesn't earn whilst teaching (I don't receive government benefits, my family funds our situation)
- learning resources and activities cost far more than what it would sending our child to a public school.
- there is no perceived free childcare by sending our child to school.

Pros

- Our child receives a tailored education and at their pace.
- The sample of education levels provided by the Home Education Unit have been helpful in determining level of education for our program.
- Our family unit is stronger than ever. We have increased understanding of one another and the connection with our child is wonderful. Please note our child attended a public school last year.

I lastly wish it known that I do not agree with 'unschooling'. Free range education isn't what I believe parents should be providing, however I do believe in educating a child without forcing them and having them compared to peers.

I believe homeschooling is a massive responsibility and not a choice that our family has taken lightly.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(Personal details to remain private and for Committee knowledge only)