Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No:	1823
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Dear Committee Members

RE: Objection to proposed changes to the Education Bill 2024

I, like so many other rural parents am having difficulty understanding why the Queensland Government wishes to bring unneeded changes to the home- school framework.

My family and I live in the NBRC, locality of Monogorilby. Our closest town is Mundubbera, which is 70km away. Our nearest primary school is Boynewood; located approximately 60km away. Of that 60km, 15km is gravel road and it takes about 50 minutes to travel to Boynewood. If we were to send our children to school they would be travelling 100minutes every day to and from school and the driver would be driving some 200mins or 240km per day. Not only is this amount of travel expensive in fuel and fatiguing on my family; it also dramatically reduces the service life of our vehicles, by driving long distances on sub standard roads.

As we move towards carbon neutral for our farming enterprise, travelling an extra 1200km per week for school would have a very negative impact on our responsible use of fossil fuels.

This travel is not an option for my family. Along with the many other reason we chose to homeschool, the benefit of not traveling long hours and distances is a great advantage. For my family, home-schooling is the best option when educating our children. The current system works well and the demand to follow a National Curriculum is impractical and takes away from the essence of home-schooling and the ability to teach each child to their abilities and personalities.

Another alarming concern with the proposed legislation is the wording "best interest of the child". The parents are surely the ones who knows what is the best interest of their child or children. I know my children more than any teacher or politician can ever know them and it is my duty to look after the best interest of my children. It is not the right of politics. I disagree with my rights as a father and parent being taken away from me when it comes to the best interest of my children.

I urge you to leave the system that works alone and leave us to continue to provide a high quality education to our children as we are currently doing. The system works well and is not broken. If it were broken you would not see the increase in new enrollments as there has been. We as parents have the very best interest of our children in mind.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Kind Regards Mark Anger

