

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: Submission from a home educated student
Date: Sunday, 24 March 2024 7:19:33 PM

Dear Government,

I am a Year 8 student homeschooler. I went to school for Grades Prep to Year 5. This will be my third year of homeschooling. My mum is a primary school teacher and teacher librarian and my dad is a secondary school Maths and HPE teacher. I have two younger sisters, who both homeschool. I also have eighteen cousins, four out of which homeschool and six who homeschooled as children but they are now adults.

I really, really enjoy homeschooling. It allows me to have more available time to have a part time job two days of the week, babysit and enjoy a more chilled lifestyle. If you were to enforce homeschool families to follow the Australian curriculum we would not only feel a lot more pressure on the children but lots of people would have to quit their homeschool activities.

I prefer our curriculum that my mum made for us than the curriculum we use in mainstream school. When I was in school I felt a lot of pressure with the tests and exams. We would do an area in maths for a few days but then move on when most of the class hadn't grasped the concept, because it was just the curriculum and what the teachers were forced to do. With homeschooling we can go at our own pace and not move on until we've got the idea.

We also do a lot of the free or paid homeschool classes. Last year we did Lego robotics, musical theatre, piano lessons and even a private art class. I also did netball and participated in the Gecko Sports homeschool athletics carnival where I received age champion. This year I am doing netball, touch football and I will be joining in on the Gecko Sports 2024 athletics carnival. Today for instance we went to Australia Zoo since we got annual passes and we go every three weeks with a group of our homeschooled friends. Yesterday we went into the city because it was the World Science Festival. We went to the Brisbane Museum, Spark Lab and visited mini side shows that had stuff to do with Science.

I want to continue homeschooling the way we are now because it allows us to do all the fun learning activities we currently do. Right now for schoolwork, I am doing what is expected of a normal Grade 8 student; spelling, reading long books and writing a report on them, essays, Maths and Maths exams, Science, Geography, History and, best of all, Physical Education. I go to a local school every second year to do NAPLAN.

I am actually learning more homeschooling than I would in school because I can focus better and not have distractions around me. I haven't scored less than a B in over three years, even though I'm still completing the same exams school kids my age are doing! My Dad helps me understand Maths in a way I never looked at it before. I get more time to learn things before I learn the next. My sisters and I all do Geography together, learning about the same places at the same time but do different schoolwork of it. For example, I have to read twenty to fifty pages of

information whereas my youngest sister, who's in Grade 3 only reads five to ten pages of an easier book. If you were to change the curriculum we would all have to learn individually and it would be no fun at all. It would also be a lot more work for my mum to teach us all different stuff at the same time. She's already busy helping us now. We learn all we need to learn in a way that's interesting and about stuff we like learning about.

I want to thank you for taking the time for reading my points and taking them into consideration.

Sincerely,

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