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

Submission No: 1854

Submitted by: Sarah Loft

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**Submitter Comments:** 

From:

To: Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee

Subject: Submission for Qld Education Bill
Date: Sunday, 24 March 2024 9:13:02 PM

(Resent with contact details added below)

Dear Committee Secretary,

As a mother, home educator, and stakeholder in regard to the potential impact of this bill I wish to submit my concerns.

Firstly, as part of a home educating community I am aware of countless stories of bullying, anxiety, and more that have forced parents to act quickly and in the best interests of their children to remove them from the school system and commence home education. Removal of provisional approval for home educators forces students into potentially unsafe harmful situations or situations that are simply not in their best interest.

Secondly, while I applaud the desire to see that students have a certain level of teaching or have covered certain subjects and topics before graduating, this is in no way practical or necessary for the following reasons:

- many home educators are working with either gifted or additional needs children.
- national curriculum limits parents ability to individually tailor programs to a students current and unique needs.
- national curriculum can unnecessarily get in the way of interest led learning.
- national curriculum doesn't always fit with the natural learning opportunities life presents. (How beautiful it is to adapt learning around things like a new baby, a trip around Australia or overseas, meeting someone from a different culture, and so much more) In my experience, for every opportunity my children miss out on in the school system (yes, there are things we miss out on), we gain 2 or 3 times the opportunities in other areas that school children miss out on!

It is easy to forget that in the vast majority of cases parents have their children's best interests at heart and will go to extraordinary lengths to see their children succeed. In our case we have sought private professional support for learning difficulties with one of our children, who wouldn't get anywhere near the time, attention, or support in the school system.

We are teaching our children to be life-long learners and we desire to instill in them a life-long love of learning. Home Education is such a beautiful opportunity to model and do this in a way that adjusts and adapts to the individual needs of each student.

With kind regards,

Sarah Loft Mother and Home Educator of two