

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Dear Committee Members,

My name is Peter Lynch and I'm writing today to express my strong opposition to the proposed changes to homeschooling legislation, particularly the requirement to follow the Australian Curriculum.

My wife and I have two children, a 2yr old girl and 4yr old boy. We have always known that we would be homeschooling, and in fact we are already a part of many homeschooling groups and communities. Homeschooling is an integral part of our family ethos, upholding the importance of family, faith, nature, and community.

I am an underground coal miner, working a FIFO 7/7 roster. Homeschooling will enable me to stay connected to my children by spending as much time as possible with them while I am at home. I will be able to actively participate in their education, and it will maintain our strong family bond. This is very important to me as FIFO employment is renowned for placing families under enormous strain.

Following and reporting on every aspect of ACARA will not allow us the freedom to choose what we as parents decide is important for our children to learn. This is one of the most important reasons we are choosing to homeschool.

The homeschool community was not consulted on the proposed changes and we have not had the opportunity to choose representatives. Instead the review team consulted with businesses that stand to directly profit from these legislative changes. I believe this is totally unethical and downright wrong, and affirms my position of not placing my children within a system that consistently fails.

Thank you for your time.

Yours sincerely,
Peter Lynch