

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitted by: Jacqueline Godden
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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee; Jacqui Godden](#)
Subject: Objection to proposed legislation changes in home education.
Date: Sunday, 24 March 2024 10:24:34 PM

Good morning,

My name is Jacqueline Godden and I am the mother of two wonderful boys, [REDACTED] 21yo and [REDACTED] 9yo.

I am writing to share my concern regarding the proposed changes to legislation in the Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024. This bill is not in my child's best interest.

Requiring adherence to the national curriculum does not allow for the unique education opportunities that many children need. [REDACTED] is "twice exceptional". That is, he is both academically gifted and learning disabled. I'm sure he will do great things in his life. Mainstream education however, cannot currently provide him the support and extension that he requires.

Furthermore, provisional registration allowed me to remove [REDACTED] from school when he was very disengaged. This provision gave us the time and space needed to understand and comply with the existing regulations and create a suitable education plan. This plan was sufficient to keep him on track, and he resumed mainstream school 6 months later. Provisional registration gave me the confidence to begin homeschooling [REDACTED]. Homeschooling provided [REDACTED] with the education he needed at the time. It did not leave him behind his peers on re-entry.

Reporting on all academic domains each year will add an unnecessary burden to homeschooling families. This would discourage me from homeschooling [REDACTED], however mainstream school cannot accommodate his needs, so this would create a situation that doesn't support his education or emotional growth.

I object to the guiding principle of proving homeschooling is in my child's best interest. This removes parental choice around education. Who will decide what is "best" for each child? How will this be enforced fairly for every child? I do believe that I would only ever choose homeschooling if it was in my sons' best interests, however I object to removing my free will regarding my child's education choices. I also worry about how this will play out in family court, should this be an issue for a family in said situation.

Overall, Queensland already has requirements to show progress and demonstrate a learning plan for each child. This is sufficient and respects children's individual rights and needs as well as parents right to choose home education if they so wish.

I urge you to reconsider this bill and object to any further legislation changes in regards to home education. Specifically, those requiring additional record keeping from homeschooling families and removal of family's educational freedom of choice, including provisional registration.

Yours respectfully,
Jacqueline Godden

[REDACTED]