Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From: To:	Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee, Redlands Electorate Office; educationandyouthjustice@ministerial.gld.gov.au; Annastacia Palaszczuk Ministerial
Subject:	Submission: Concerns Regarding Changes to Education (General Provisions) and other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024, Homeschooling.
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Subject: Concerns Regarding Changes to Education (General Provisions) and other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024, Homeschooling

Dear Committee Members

I trust this email finds you well.

I am writing to express my concern and opposition to the proposed changes to home education legislation. The changes proposed to home educating in Queensland I believe will disadvantage many children and families.

Over the years, I've had the privilege of homeschooling our 2 children, each with their unique learning styles, interests and needs and witnessed incredible growth and achievements.

My areas of objections are:

A) Guiding Principles: Who defines suitable? In regards to choosing a suitable educational environment"

We would like to continue to exercise our rights to determine how our child is educated and as dedicated home educating parents, we understand the unique needs and learning styles of our children better than anyone else, we have carefully crafted educational experiences that prioritize individualized learning, critical thinking and personal growth.

B) Standardized Curriculum:

While the Australian curriculum may be presented as a superior option, it is essential to acknowledge that it's just one of many possibilities. For some children, it may indeed be adequate, but for others, it may not align with their learning preferences or life goals. The essence of homeschooling lies in the freedom it affords children to learn in a manner that aligns with their individual interests, abilities, and learning styles. By imposing a mandated curriculum, these proposed changes would impede my child's autonomy and hinder my child's ability to pursue education in a way that best suits my child's needs.

One of the primary motivations for homeschooling is to provide our children with a personalized learning experience (Customized Curriculum) that fosters their intellectual curiosity and allows them to learn at their own pace. Homeschooling allows our children to take ownership of their education, encouraging independence, critical thinking and problem-solving skills. They learn how to learn, exploring diverse subjects, and developing a deep understanding of themselves and the world around them.

These new regulations threaten to restrict this flexibility and stifle their natural inclination to explore and discover the world around them.

Furthermore, enforcing a standardized curriculum fails to recognize the diverse interests and talents of homeschooling students. It overlooks the fact that every child is unique and may thrive in different subject areas or learning environments. By imposing rigid educational requirements, we risk depriving our children of the opportunity to pursue their passions and develop their full potential.

In essence, these proposed changes would not only compromise the fundamental principles of homeschooling but also limit my child's ability to learn and grow in a way that honors my child's individuality and creativity.

Homeschooling allows us to create an environment that nurtures my child's individual strengths, cultivates my child's curiosity, and instills a love for learning that extends far

beyond the confines of a classroom.

C) Removal of 60 the day provisional registration: This will disadvantage many who need to start homeschooling unexpectedly for the wellbeing of their child.

D) Increased Reporting Expectation to demonstrate educational progress: (Reporting on 8 different Key Learning Areas)

This is far too much reporting, taking away from valuable learning/planning time with our children.

As a homeschooling parent deeply invested in my child's education, I urge the committee to reconsider these restrictive measures, approach homeschooling legislation with a deep appreciation for the lived experiences of homeschooling families and a commitment to ensuring that all children have access to a quality education that meets their unique needs, by listening to the voices of homeschooling parents and to uphold our right to educate our children in the manner we deem best.

Thank you for considering my perspective.

Homeschooling Parent.

Please could you redact my personal contact details from my submission before public posting, thank you.

