

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From: [Clare Arnold](#)
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: Changes to Education Bill
Date: Monday, 25 March 2024 9:19:12 AM

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent education legislation changes that have been proposed in our state. As a constituent and a member of the community, I believe it is crucial to voice my apprehensions about the potential impact of these changes on our education system.

I am a registered teacher in Queensland however it became apparent my three neurodivergent children were not going to do well in the school system and I have provided a home education to them for the past five years, where they are thriving.

The proposed legislation raises several pressing concerns that I believe need to be addressed. Firstly, and of greatest concern to me, is the change to Section 7

Section 7—

insert—

(da) for chapter 9, part 5, home education of a child or young person should be provided in

a way that—

(i) is in the best interests of the child or young person taking into account their

safety and wellbeing; and

(ii) ensures the child or young person receives a high-quality education;

I have great concern with who will be tasked to decide what is “in the best interests of the child”, and to what level they would have an understanding of the individual child. There are many students currently in school who are being badly failed by the system, yet they would be considered as having a “high-quality education” simply by attending school, regardless of academic outcomes. Through my work I come across many students who have completed 12 years of education yet are unable to read and write basic forms.

Moreover, I am worried about the lack of transparency and public consultation surrounding these changes. As a stakeholder in our education system, I believe it is imperative for the voices of educators, parents, students, and community members to be heard and considered in any decision-making process that impacts our schools.

In light of these concerns, I urge you to carefully reconsider the proposed education legislation and to prioritize the best interests of our students, teachers, and schools. I implore you to advocate for a more inclusive and collaborative approach to policymaking that values input from all stakeholders and ensures the integrity and quality of our education system.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and for considering my concerns.

Kathleen Arnold

