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

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Submitted by:	Elizabeth Roots
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Elizabeth Roots

25 March 2024

Mr Barry O'Rourke Member for Rockhampton

Level 1 192 Quay Street ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4700

Dear Mr Barry O'Rourke,

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

The proposed legislation raises several pressing concerns that I believe need to be addressed. Firstly, I feel that the proposed changes to the home education policies are a massive overstep and could potentially take away options to homeschool. Secondly, the student welfare and learning capacicity is broadened when homeschooling as students are able to learn within the contexts of their chosen interests and so increase their capacity to understand subjects over a broader area as they are more engaged. Thirdly, they are able to escape the bullying that occurs in all schools despite the best efforts of the teaching staff.

Having watched my Grandchildren learn and grow with homeschooling, I have seen them become more confident within themselves, their environment and in their learning with one on one teaching. They also do a sport of their choosing so interact with other individuals on the playing field. Both of my Grandchildren are fully engaged in their learning and enjoy seeing how much they have progressed each term. Learning is not a "one size fits all" scenario as happens in most classrooms within a school.

I'm concerned that the legislation has been introduced without proper consultation with current homeschooling families and I hope that you will take my feedback into consideration. In light of these concerns, I urge you to carefully reconsider the proposed education legislation and to prioritise the best interests of our students. For education to be inclusive of all students, I believe it is important to understand the reasoning behind the education decisions of the families who struggle the most to fit into the mainstream education.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns. It is my hope that, going forward, this legislation can suit the needs of all students across Queensland. I look forward to hearing your response about this important issue.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Roots