

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: Advocating for Informed Legislation on Homeschooling
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To whom it may concern,

As someone deeply invested in the education of my children, I've made the conscious choice to homeschool, recognizing that the mainstream educational system may not always suit or, in some cases, can even harm children.

I am currently homeschooling my two Autistic and ADHD children both with their own challenges. They have both been enrolled in mainstream education in the past and in both cases the system failed. Homeschooling has provided the opportunity for us to learn in the best possible ways for them, they are not exposed to bullying and harassment, they are more social in appropriate situations and looking to their futures and how they can have a positive impact on the world they live in. This would not be the case if they were forced into a rigid system.

I firmly believe that without lived experience, it's challenging to fully grasp the intricacies of homeschooling and to understand what legislative measures are truly needed to ensure homeschooled children receive a quality education. It's not merely about enforcing rigid curriculum requirements but rather about fostering an environment that empowers parents to provide personalized, holistic education tailored to their children's individual needs and aspirations.

While the Australian curriculum may be presented as a superior option, it's 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. This underscores the importance of offering diverse schooling options and supporting parents in making informed decisions about their children's education.

In conclusion, I urge the committee to 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 advocating for policies that promote flexibility, autonomy, and inclusivity, we can create a more equitable and responsive educational system for all.

Thank you for considering my perspective.

Sincerely,

Shanna Cierpial

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