Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From:Education, Employment, Training and Skills CommitteeSubject:Proposed homeschooling legislation changesDate:Monday, 25 March 2024 10:49:11 AM

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to you as a concerned grandparent regarding the proposed changes to home schooling legislation currently under consideration. As someone deeply invested in the education and well-being of my grandchildren, I feel compelled to express my apprehensions about the potential impact of these changes on their educational journey and the rights of their parents.

Home schooling has provided my grandchildren with a unique and enriching educational experience, tailored to their individual needs and circumstances. It has allowed them to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally, under the guidance and care of their dedicated parents. However, I fear that the proposed changes to home schooling legislation may jeopardize the freedom and flexibility that has made this educational option so beneficial for countless families across our country.

As a grandparent, I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact of home schooling on my grandchildren's academic achievement and personal growth. The ability of their parents to customize their curriculum, explore their interests, and instill values aligned with our family's beliefs has been invaluable in shaping their development. Any legislative changes that restrict this flexibility or impose unnecessary burdens on home schooling families would be deeply concerning to me and to many other grandparents who support their children's choice to home school.

Moreover, I am worried about the potential infringement on parental rights that these proposed changes may represent. The decision to home school is one that requires careful consideration and dedication on the part of parents, who are best positioned to determine what is in the best interest of their children. Imposing excessive regulations or oversight measures could undermine parental autonomy and interfere with the ability of families to make informed decisions about their children's education.

I urge you to take into account the voices of grandparents like myself, who have seen the positive impact of home schooling on our grandchildren's lives. My daughter and her family moved from Brisbane back to Maryborough where we live, so that we could be hands on to help her in schooling her neuro divergent children. I implore you to carefully reconsider the proposed changes to home schooling legislation and to ensure that any amendments strike a balance between accountability and the rights of parents to choose the educational path that they believe is most suitable for their children. Thank you for considering my concerns on this important matter. I trust that you will give due attention to the perspectives of all stakeholders involved and work towards preserving the rights and freedoms of families who choose to home school their children.

Sincerely,

Susan Gehrke



Sent from my iPhone