

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Mr Graham Evans

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I do NOT agree with the proposed legislation amendments to the education act. I do NOT agree like the wording and am dubious as to who will have the final say in "the best interests of the child". This should always be the parent. Under NO circumstances should the government have the final say on what is "best" for our children. As thier parents we strive to help our children in every way we possibly can. Home educating is not an easy task and require a parent to give up their jobs or work around the child's needs. Ontop of this loss of imcome it often comes with significant extra costs to families as they to provide sports, excursions, play groups and meetups aswell as books and online programs all off their own backs. This is not done lightly and is purely in the child's best interests as often home-schooling is not the first route to educating their child a family makes and rather a necessity after mainstream schools have failed them. I do Not agree with making us follow the Australian Curriculum as it is outdated and far to messy for the home educator to follow. Again I do NOT agree to having to report on all subjects. This is simply too much extra paperwork for parents and more then your fully trained teachers are required to report on for each of the children in a classroom. Our daughter struggled with school feom day 1 at Kindy. She had school refusal which resulted in over 3 hrs of parents and teacher talking to her and trying to get her into school grounds with multipul attendants by police because she had run when she left the car. She managed to skate along at an average level until grade 7. Her first yr of Highschool and we hoped everything would change foe the better. It didn't. She was targeted and bullied by her teacher and the head of the curriculum. Pulled out and criticised infeont of her peers because she did not agree with the work she was being provided and that her Christian values were being dismissed and trodden on. By the end of that yr she was suicidal and had fallen out with almost all of her friends. The school had no concerns with her wellbeing only that she kept missing attendance and her assignments were either late or not completed fully. We chose to try something new, home-school. WOW. You would not believe she is the same child as 18 months ago. She is happy, bubbly, chats to everyone, has a nice group of 6 friends. She has read over 60 books and is now writing her own stories. The difference is staggering. We do not follow ACARA and her education is purely interest led. She chooses to sit and study when it suits her. She is about to begin a cert 2 on Agriculture and has had time to train and educate a horse herself now ready to break him in. She is thriving like so many other home educated children across Qld and the world. Please don't try to fix something that is not broken.

Thank you for reading my views on this subject.

Sincerely
Graham Evans