Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From:	
To:	Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee
Subject:	Submission: Opposition to Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024
Date:	Monday, 25 March 2024 11:26:17 AM

Dear Committee Members,

I write to you today in relation to my opposition of the proposed Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024. As a parent and concerned resident, I am a supportive of rights of parents to determine the manner in which their child/ren are educated.

I believe introducing a standardised curriculum across the homeschooling community will stifle innovation and potentially lead to the disengagement of many children in their learning. At the heart of the issue is a child's right to education, that education needs to be fit for purpose and provide the child every opportunity to thrive. In accordance with Benjamin Bloom's 1984 paper titled "The 2 sigma problem: The search for Methods of Group Instructions as Effective as One-to-One Tutoring", educational outcomes are improved by two standard deviations, in the presence of one-to-one instructions. Many homeschoolers have chosen this educational option in response to a lack of main stream opportunities that suit their child and instead opt to follow a educational path that in many instances leads to entry into tertiary, vocational or similar education opportunities at an earlier age.

Furthermore, the lack of transparency of the 6 homeschooling representative groups who provided input during community consultation is concerning. The lack of information provided about who these groups were lead me to question whether they had a financial or other conflict of interest in the introduction of a standardised curriculum. As a democratic nation, it is important that all stakeholders are accurately represented and consulted. From my understanding, and the lack of transparency of whom the representatives were who provided vital input, I am concerned this has not happened.

With the current Queensland schooling system experiencing many issues including staff shortages, challenging behaviours in schools and poor academic results in comparison to global results, I feel it is misguided to impose the amendments proposed to the homeschooling community.

Whilst I write to you in good faith, I do not consent to the publication of my name, or contact details supplied with this submission. As such, I request the committee to redact this information.

Kind Regards,

