

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: (Education General Provisions and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024)
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Dear Committee Members

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent education legislation changes (Education General Provisions and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024) that have been proposed in our state and its potential impact on our home-schooling journey.

I am the mother of one. We tried everything to give her a sibling. It didn't happen. Then our quiet, little world was further blown apart with my husband's terminal diagnosis from completely out of the blue. He was given one year to live, and he did everything to try and stay with us. He had a wonderful eight months before he declined. He was strong and brave and cherished being a father to our daughter.

In the aftermath of a terminal diagnosis, everything becomes plain and perfectly understood. We only have the now, the present moment. The irony is, we are born with this knowledge. Our young children live perfectly in the present. What they feel in the now, is what they express. No more, no less.

Sit with a young child and silently observe their captivated wonder as they explore the world around them. Children are learning all the time. Watching, waiting, listening. They are masters at acquiring what they need to learn and grow. They are masters, ready to reteach us what we have long forgotten, if only we take pause.

This is why I choose to home-school. With that comes a tremendous responsibility and I am grateful to live in a state and country that affords us this opportunity.

Home-schooling today is about facilitating an environment that best suits my child. She willingly teaches herself to write and count and understand the world around her. I provide her with the tools and experiences. She has the freedom to explore alongside so many other home-schooling friends in a manner and time frame that suits her. It feels considerate and kind and natural.

Therefore, the notion that the government is better at deciding what a "suitable educational environment" is, is impulsive. Parents home-schooling their children are far better placed to understand what kind of learning environment their individual children need.

The planning and reporting system already in place allows HEU to work with parents on demonstrating the child is learning all the time in so many wonderful rich ways. Home-schooling families are connected across neighbourhoods and the world through social media. We can source what our children need and keep up to date with many different

and new learning practices.

Please do not rashly legislate that more reporting is needed, nor mandate us to blindly follow a curriculum that puts a singular system before the unique needs and abundant curiosity of the child. Let us educate our children respectfully and allow all our children to demonstrate how truly amazing and knowledgeable they are naturally inclined to be.

Yours sincerely,
L McCullough

Please find my details below on a separate page for privacy reasons.

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