

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: Concerns Regarding Proposed Changes to Homeschooling Legislation
Date: Monday, 25 March 2024 11:52:08 AM

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to you with my concerns regarding the proposed amendments to the education bill that has recently been presented to parliament. As a home educating parent, I do not support some of these changes that have been introduced and I am worried about the impact that they will have on my family and the homeschooling community.

I am particularly concerned about "Division 2 - Clause 18 - Amendment of s 7 (Guiding principles)

(3) Section 7—

insert—

(da) for chapter 9, part 5, home education of a child or young person should be provided in a way that—

(i) is in the best interests of the child or young person taking into account their safety and wellbeing; and

(ii) ensures the child or young person receives a high-quality education;"

This directly concerns me as it doesn't state "whom" will be the deciding person. Is it the Education Department, or the parent? I, myself, have just had an issue with one person at the Education department stating my child needs to be in a specialised program due to his complexity. She had a conflict of interest and wanted my child to be seen by a Dr she worked with outside of the Education department. While his specialist team have stated that he should not be changing his current program as a home school child. Thankfully, the Education department has now changed stance and moved that employee away from working with home school children.

I'm concerned that the legislation has been introduced without proper consultation with current homeschooling families and I hope that you will take my feedback into consideration. For education to be inclusive of all students, I believe it is important to understand the reasoning behind the education decisions of the families who struggle the most to fit into mainstream education.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns. It is my hope that, going forward, this legislation can suit the needs of all students across Queensland. I look forward to hearing your response about this important issue.

Sincerely,

Renaë Versteegen

