

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 2067
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Dear Ms Farmer

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent education legislation changes that have been proposed in our State.

I believe a current homeschooling family, an ex-State Education teacher and an active community member of our state that it is crucial I voice my concern about the potential impact of these changes on our education system.

The proposed legislation raises several pressing concerns that I believe need to be addressed. Firstly, enforcing 8 key learning areas of curriculum on homeschool families is excessive and in excess of what school teachers themselves need to do. A school teacher never has to plan one year's worth of learning in 8 learning areas for their own classrooms.

Furthermore, but of more concern to me, having been in the education system as a teacher I have seen first hand how the national curriculum, a standardised curriculum does not in fact lead to quality learning outcomes for students. The number of students I have struggle to keep up with the national curriculum do to learning difficulties and non-individualised learning was a concern, and honestly one of the many reasons we chose to homeschool our own children. When you put children under undue pressure you force behavioural impacts that are undesirable.

I feel that the impact of these changes will not lead to improved learning outcomes for children but will in fact lead many families to avoid registration and further go 'under the radar' to avoid such control and impact on their own children's learning.

You need to realise that many homeschool families education their children at home because of poor school experiences or in our case we have a strong belief and value system we want our children to experience freedom and choice in their learning.

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission.

Regards

Kylie McDonald

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