

## Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

**Submission No:** 2100  
**Submitted by:** Lachlan Wallace  
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**Submitter Comments:**

Dear Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee members,

I am writing to express the view that the recently-announced changes to education legislation that have been proposed in our state are cause for significant concern. As a constituent and a member of both the education and homeschooling communities, I believe it is crucial to voice my apprehensions about the potential impact of these changes on our education system.

I am father to a home-schooled child, and a secondary teacher of 11 years. I, along with my wife, am engaged and actively involved in our child's home education. We share a hands-on role in guiding our child as they grow their understanding across numerous areas outlined in the Australian Curriculum, and in many other ways besides.

The proposed legislation raises several pressing concerns that I believe need to be addressed. Firstly, I am confused about the rationale for such stark changes. Is it, as Hon. Di Farmer was quoted as saying, due to an increase of homeschooling families since 2021? If this is the case, it would seem illogical. Homeschooling has long been a recognised and viable, legal option for Queensland families, and has served thousands of learners and parents well on their educational paths. Why does a larger number of people choosing to explore that option suggest that legislative changes must ensue?

Secondly, the legislation proposes that all home-schooling families be required to plan and learn using the Australian Curriculum aligned to their child's age equivalent level. Although this, along with wording around several other changes, is somewhat vague and ambiguous, it does rightly raise several questions from impacted families, such as mine: How will this impact our ability to educate in a way that is responsive to our child's passions, interests and needs? How will the level of adherence to the AC be determined/communicated? Will it negatively impact our ability to be responsible for our child's growth and development?

Moreover, I am worried about the lack of transparency and public consultation surrounding these changes. As a stakeholder in our education system, I believe it is imperative for the voices of educators, parents, students, and community members to be heard and considered in any decision-making process that impacts our schools.

In light of these concerns, I urge you to carefully reconsider the proposed education legislation and to prioritize the best interests of our students, teachers, and schools. I implore you to advocate for a more inclusive and collaborative approach to policymaking that values input from all stakeholders and ensures the integrity and quality of our education system.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and for considering my concerns. I look forward to your response and to further dialogue on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Lachlan Wallace

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[Redacted contact information]