From:
To: House of Assembly - GAA

Subject: A school community of care and compassion

Date: Friday, 19 July 2024 8:41:14 AM

Re: A school community of care and compassion

Dear Committee Secretary,

I was alarmed to hear of the high levels of bullying of Australian teenagers and especially in Tasmania. I send my children to a Christian school and I am thankful that it has been a safe space for my children to learn and grow. Christian schools strive to be communities of care and compassion because we strive to follow the example of Jesus. In my experience they work hard to address bullying and have a strong culture of care and compassion for all students. I am asking the Committee to ensure that Christian schools can continue to provide the caring, nurturing environment that I have chosen for my children and experienced first hand. I hear of so many instances where parents are removing their children from the public education system and entering the private Christian schooling system due to the extreme bullying and violence happening in our public schools. Christian schools provide peace and comfort of mind for parents knowing that their children have the opportunity to learn and grow by educators and staff who have a genuine interest in the best interests of every child in their schools and will do everything in their power to allow their children to feel safe and supported in a positive environment. I strongly urge you to not to remove exemptions from Christian and other faith-based schools to allow them to choose their staff based on their beliefs as these are the best people to care for my children whilst they are at school.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Venetia Murfet

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