

# KEY CLAUSES - SUMMARY TABLE BELA EDUCATION BILL

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BELA Clause no 2024	BELA Clause no 2023	Schools Act Section	Purpose	Summary Comment	Support/Delete/Edit	Significance
1(g)	1	1(e)	Definition of home education	Expand definition to include grandparent teaching and home, but not cottage schooling.	Edit	Medium
2	2	3(a)	Jail sentence for parent infringements increased 6 months to a year	Prefer no jail time for parents (fine and or community service only). Risks jailing unregistering home education or with compliance difficulties. Otherwise retain status quo (6mths). Separate penalty for non-parents in S2(c) allows reduction in S2(a).	Edit	High
2	2	3(c)	Jail penalty of a year for obstructing others children	Support a year's jail time for obstruction of learners other than own children.	Support	High
4d	4d	5	Admissions Policy	Admissions policy should remain with parents through the School Governing Body, and not the Head of Department. Undermines parents rights & religious freedom.	Delete Cl 4d, S	High
4e-g	4e-g	5(9-13)	Admissions Policy appeals	If the changes to 4d are not deleted, then the time limits are beneficial. Otherwise they are redundant.	Delete if 4d deleted, else retain	High
5	5	6(5-20)	Language policy	Takes power over language policy from parents to state. Bad precedent for religious freedom.	Delete S6(5-20)	High
7(2)	7(2)	8	Code of conduct	* Exemptions on religion, cultural, medical grounds only. * SGB provide reasons for decision* * Remove right of appeal to Province.	Edits	High
14		21	Centralised procurement	The SGB and not the state must decide on procurement.		
20	22	26	Declare if doing business with school	Reasonable alternative to Cl 14, S18A.	Support.	Low
25		33	Closure of school especially less than 135	Give school education voucher for number of children and let SGB decide future.	Edit	
26	28	36	Lease agreements of school premises maximum 12 months without permission	36 maximum lease or six months notice, without MEC permission	Edit	High
35		51	Home education	Refer to Home Education organisations submissions .e.g. Pestalozzi Trust. <a href="https://pestalozzi.org/">https://pestalozzi.org/</a>		
39	41	61	Policies: Admissions, Learner pregnancy	Delete 'Learner Pregnancy Policy, Admissions policy'. Limit penalties except for financial. All Basic Ed. Dept Policies must be advertised for public comment.	Edit	High