The Director General

Private Bag X895

Pretoria

0001

XXth November 2017

Attention: Adv. TD Rudman

Dear Adv. Rudman,

**Draft BASIC EDUCATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL – Comments.**

[NOTE 1: SHOULD YOU WISH TO SEND AN ANONYMOUS SUBMISSION: PLEASE EITHER DO NOT GIVE ANY IDENTIFYING INFORMATION OR SEND THIS SUBMISSION TO THE PESTALOZZI TRUST WITH **ANONYMOUS** ADDED IN THE SUBJECT LINE, WHO WILL FORWARD IT USING AN ANONYMOUS PROCESS, TO THE DBE]

[NOTE 2: PLEASE USE YOUR OWN WORDS, USE THIS TEMPLATE MERELY AS A GUIDE]

**Executive Summary**

[YOU SHOULD WRITE THIS LAST IT IS A SUMMARY OF YOUR KEY POINTS]

[WHILE THE BILL DOES NOT DIRECTLY ADDRESSS COTTAGE SCHOOLERS. YOU WISH TO RAISE THE ISSUE OF COTTAGE SCHOOLING AND ASK FOR IT TO BE CONSIDERED]

[STATE WHY COTTAGE SCHOOLS ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE EDUCATIONAL SECTOR IN SA]

[EXPRESS YOUR CONCERN THAT COTTAGE SCHOOLS HAVE NOT BEEN CONSULTED WHILE THE BILL WAS BEING DRAWN UP. THE DBE IS AWARE OF THE PHENOMENA OF COTTAGE SCHOOLS, YET HAS NOT CONSULTED WITH THEM ON THE BILL. THIS IS A MAJOR OVERSIGHT IN THE CONSULTATION PROCESS]

[ASK THAT COTTAGE SCHOOLS NOW BE IN INCLUDED IN THE PROCESS]

**Background**

[GIVE A BRIEF BACKGROUND ON YOUR SCHOOL. EXPLAIN HOW MANY STUDENTS ARE IN YOUR SCHOOL. IN WHICH GRADES/OF WHAT AGE. STATE HOW LONG YOU HAVE BEEN OPERATING AS A COTTAGE SCHOOL. STATE YOUR MOTIVATION FOR STARTING A COTTAGE SCHOOL. STATE THE TYPE OF SCHOOL YOU ARE (GENERAL, SPECIAL NEEDS ETC.)]

[THE REASONS PARENTS SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO YOUR SCHOOL]

[SPEAK ABOUT COTTAGE SCHOOLING IN GENERAL. YOU ARE ADVISED **NOT** TO REVEAL THE NAMES OR DETAILS OF THIRD PARTIES (I.E. CHILDREN, PARENTS, OTHER SCHOOLS, OFFICALS ETC. UNLESS YOU HAVE EXPLICIT WRITTEN PERMISSION TO DO SO:

* HOW COTTAGE SCHOOLS CONTRIBUTE TO SCHOOLING IN SA.
* COTTAGE SCHOOLING IS GROWING.
* YOUR SCHOOL HAS CLOSE TIES WITH PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
* CHILDREN HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO YOUR SCHOOL BY REGISTERED SCHOOLS (PUBLIC OR PRIVATE) OR TEACHERS AT REGISTERED SCHOOLS.
* CHILDREN HAVE BEEN REFFERED TO YOUR SCHOOL BY MEDICAL PRACTIONERS, PSYCHOLOGISTS, EDUCATIONAL PROFESSIONALS.
* THERE IS NO PLACE IN LOCAL SCHOOLS FOR THE CHILDREN THAT ATTEND YOUR SCHOOL
* THERE ARE NO LOCAL SCHOOLS THAT CATER TO THE NEEDS OF YOUR STUDENTS.
* DETAIL OF THE CURRICULUM YOUR SCHOOL FOLLOWS OR METHOD OF EDUCATION USED.
* STATE IF YOU HAVE TIES TO A REGISTERED CURRICULUM PROVIDER.]

**Comment**

[YOU ARE AWARE THAT THE DEPT. VIEWS COTTAGE SCHOOLS AS UNREGISTERED PRIVATE SCHOOLS. BUT DESPITE THIS COTTAGE SCHOOLS CONTINUE TO GROW AND PLAY AN IMPORTANT EDUCATIONAL ROLE IN SOCIETY. STATE YOU WISH TO OPERATE WITHIN AN APPROPRIATE LEGAL FRAMEWORK. EXPLAIN THE BENEFITS YOUR LEARNERS, PARENTS, SOCIETY AT LARGE AND YOU WOULD DERIVE FROM LEGALITY. ELIMINATION OF FLY-BY-NIGHT OWNERS. PROTECTION OF PARENTS/LEARNERS FROM EXPLOITATION BY UNSCRUPULOUS OWNERS. IMPROVED COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. BETTER INFORMATION ABOUT LEARNER NUMBERS I.E. IMPROVED ABILITY OF DBE TO PLAN. EXPLAIN WHY YOU ARE NOT REGISTERED I.E. EXCESSIVE COSTS, LEGISLATION AND BUREAUCRATIC POLICIES THAT ARE UNSUITED TO THE YOUR EDUCATION SEGMENT. STATE YOUR REASONS ETC.]

**Conclusion**

[RESTATE THE TWO KEY POINTS FROM THE BACKGROUND AND THE TWO KEY POINTS FROM THE COMMENT SECTION]

[STATE HOW YOU WANT THE DBE TO RESPOND]

[YOUR NAME]

[E-MAIL ADDRESS]

[TEL. NO.]

[POSTAL ADDRESS]