



Suggestion 22

Karyn Bradford

2 pages

From: Karyn Bradford [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 7 November 2017 9:51 PM
To: FedRedistribution - SA
Subject: Submission re redistribution of SA Electorates

To the Redistribution Committee for South Australia,

I write to make suggestions to the South Australian Federal Redistribution currently being undertaken by the Australian Electoral Commission.

I have lived my life in Milang SA and am a constituent of the Federal Division of Mayo.

I do not believe that the Division of Mayo should be abolished in this redistribution process and submit my rationale to the committee responsible for managing the redistribution in the following three key areas that must be considered;

1. Communities of Interest within the proposed electorate, including economic, social and regional interests.
2. Means of communication and travel within the proposed federal electorate
3. The physical features of an area of the proposed federal electorate.

Communities of Interest

As a constituent of Mayo, I appreciate the importance of the collaboration between Federal and Local Government and Mayo includes the entirety of the Adelaide Hills Council, Mount Barker District Council, Alexandrina Council, Victor Harbor Council, The District Council of Yankalilla and the Kangaroo Island Council which have well established alliances and partnerships providing excellent supports in the areas of transport, Ageing services, volunteer support and community services. To abolish Mayo and split these councils between two or three electorates would mean that my local community is not well represented. The Hills and Coasts Regional Development Board also encompasses Mayo supporting regional development across Mayo and its work would be compromised in having to manage a region which crosses a number of electorates.

The community of Mayo has shared interests and passions and well established networks in many areas including, community services, sports, recreational pursuits, tourism and business development. Volunteerism is a strength of the electorate with Mayo having the highest percentage of volunteers in Australia, which reflects our shared community spirit and our civic pride and participation. Mayo with its rural base has issues which are vastly different to those faced by the metropolitan area and it is important that our agricultural, horticultural and wine production businesses are represented by someone who understands the specific issues and can represent them with clarity.

Voters at the last election supported the election of the current independent Federal Member and I wish to retain this independent voice in Federal Parliament. If the electoral boundary realignment meant that the chance for this independent representation was lost I would see it as a system failure in fairness, equity and democracy.

Physical features of Mayo

There are distinct physical features that define Mayo from the metropolitan electorates and the rural electorate of Barker, including the Hills Face Zone, the Onkaparinga River and the Lower Lakes.

The Hills Face Zone is a large planning zone in South Australia that restricts development in the Adelaide Foothills and Mount Lofty Ranges. As a result of this zone, there is an effective barrier between metropolitan Adelaide and the communities of the Adelaide Hills. It does not make sense for these two distinct areas to be represented by a metropolitan based electorate.

The Lower Lakes separate riverside communities including Goolwa, Milang and Currency Creek from the Division of Barker. This creates a true physical barrier between Mayo and Barker.

Population Growth in Key Areas

I know that the AEC must attempt to make sure all of the remaining ten electorates have a similar population. Mayo currently has 3 fast growing communities in Mount Barker, Victor harbor and Strathalbyn. Mount Barker in particular currently has a population 34,000, but this is projected to increase to 55,000 by 2036. It would not be fair for an area of this size to be included within a metropolitan seat boundary, as the needs and experiences of the voters would be considerably different.

I hope you will consider my submission, and that you will see fit to keep the Division of Mayo as one of the ten electoral divisions in South Australia.

Yours sincerely, Karyn Bradford [REDACTED]

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