



The Federal Redistribution 2009
QUEENSLAND



Objection Number 453

Edward Brown

2 pages

From: Edward Brown [edwardbrwn58@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, 20 August 2009 10:44 AM
To: QLD Redistribution
Subject: Objection to the new Federal Division's name - WRIGHT - Recommendation for new
Federal Division's name - WATERS

Good Morning

Objection to the Proposed New Queensland Division's Name

In 2006, the Australian Electoral Commission originally recommended "WRIGHT" as the new Electoral Division name but did not proceed with it as the public uproar regarding the name "WRIGHT".

When my mother told me about The Sunday Mail article on 26 July 2009, with the new electoral division's name as "WRIGHT", I remembered the name Keith Wright who was a former Australian Labor Party politician and convicted rapist. I know my family associated the name Wright with the disgraced Labor politician.

I understand that within the Proposed Report QLD 2009, the argument for the naming of the New Queensland Division as Wright at Reference Points 77 to 87 does not alleviate the confusion of the name, WRIGHT. Many Queenslanders still associate the name with the disgraced politician.

It seems that prior to the closure of nominations for the new Queensland Division's Name on 8 May that the name "WRIGHT" was the only one being considered since it was overlooked in 2006.

Alternative Name suggested for the Proposed New Queensland Division's Name - WATERS

As the New Electoral Division is in Queensland, then I believe that my Pop, Warrant Officer Leonard Waters represented Queensland as the only Aboriginal Fighter pilot in the RAAF, more honourably than Judith Wright. I know Pop was born in New South Wales, but Poppy & Nana Waters moved their family to Queensland. Pop joined the Air Force in St George, Queensland on 24 August 1942 and returned to St George at the end of the war. My Pop was proud to be the only Aboriginal fighter pilot in the RAAF even though the Australian Government abandoned him at the end of the Second World War. He resumed his life as a manual labourer mainly a shearer and was a staunch unionist and Australian Labor Party supporter until his death on 24 August 1993.

I understand from my Nana that there were nine recommendations for my Pop's name WATERS out of the 47 submissions received for the new Queensland Division's Name nominations on 8 May 2009. Nana was proud that the recommendations included two Members of Parliament, a Jamboree Councillor, Pop's buddies from the 78th Squadron who flew with him during World War II and his family and friends. The comments on the submissions included that Pop "stands as a role model to all Australians regardless of ethnic background", "recognising him in the naming of this electorate would be contributing to Reconciliation between all Australians", "Mr Waters' life has already been commemorated in several ways such as his depiction on an Australian Post stamp and a monument being erected to him in St George. Given Mr Waters served his country and rose to the rank of Warrant Office in the RAAF at a time in Australia's history when he wasn't eligible to vote, I believe the naming of the new Queensland electorate after him is a fitting tribute to honour his legacy and sacrifice."

Recommendation for the new Queensland Electoral Division's Name - WATERS:

That **WATERS** is the new Queensland Electoral Division's name instead of WRIGHT which will always be synonymise with Keith WRIGHT the former Australian Labor Party politician and convicted rapist. My pop served Australia honourably during a time of crisis and was proud of his heritage.

With regards

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