



Suggestion 64

Vivienne Barker

2 pages

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From: Vivienne Barker [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 8 November 2017 12:46 PM
To: FedRedistribution - SA
Subject: Saving the seat of MAYO

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 am a constituent of the Federal Division of Mayo.

As a constituent of Mayo, I know that the collaboration between Federal and Local Government is really important. To abolish Mayo and split the current councils between two or three electorates would mean that my local community is not represented consistently.

The community of Mayo has shared interests and passions. Mayo has the highest percentage of volunteers in Australia, which speaks to our shared community spirit. Many of us like to attend local country shows or gather to watch the local sporting teams play on the weekend.

It is important I am represented by someone who understands the issues our local region is facing, rather than being represented by someone based in the metropolitan area.

At the recent election, the results from the ballot boxes show a consistent vote for our current independent Federal Member. I believe this shows a want across the region for an independent voice in Federal Parliament, and it would be disappointing if this voice was silenced due to the electorate being abolished.

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.

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.

Strathalbyn has a population of 7,000 and is also growing fast with an expected increase in the older age group over the next 5 years and needs to improve the local infrastructure to cater for the corresponding needs of that group.

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, Vivienne Barker

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