



Objection 200

Helen Paatsch OAM

2 pages

From: Helen Paatsch
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Subject: Objection to proposal Corangamite to Cox
Date: Tuesday, 1 May 2018 8:47:44 PM

Sir,

I wish to object to the proposed changes to the Corangamite electorate, specifically in relation to the proposal to remove Colac from the current electorate and to relocate the town into the electorate of Wannon.

I make the following observations:

- Colac's area of interest lies with Geelong. Strong links between Geelong and Colac have been forged over many years, and local government continues to strengthen these links to this day. That Government has seen fit to fund a dual highway between the two towns is testament to the importance of these links.
- For Colac residents medical specialist treatment is usually sought in Geelong.
- Community of interest between Colac and Hamilton is almost non-existent.
- Colac Otway Shire embraces the Otways and Apollo Bay. These should not be separated into a different electorate.
- I understand that the Colac Otway Shire has put forward a proposal which addresses the issue of population numbers. As an attendee at the meeting where this was proposed, I strongly support the proposal.
- What a retrograde step to remove the name "Corangamite" from the electorate. This name dates back to Federation, acknowledges the largest permanent salt water lake in Australia and honours the indigenous heritage of our area.
- As a former Board member (for almost ten years) of the South West Community Foundation I have a real appreciation of the difficulties that beset an organization which attempts to marry the interests of the far south-west of Victoria with an increasingly Geelong-focussed municipality.

I maintain a keen interest in government at all levels and ask that due consideration be given to my submission.

Yours Faithfully

Helen Paatsch OAM

Former Councillor and Mayor of Colac Otway Shire

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