



Suggestion 56

Helen B Mackley

2 pages

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From: Helen B Mackley [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 8 November 2017 11:37 AM
To: FedRedistribution - SA
Subject: Submission to keep the existing boundaries of 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 do not believe that the Division of Mayo should be abolished in this redistribution process.

I am a constituent of the Federal Division of Mayo. Our current member Ms R Sharkie is doing a wonderful job for Mayo; she knows the issues of importance to us the constituents of Mayo having undertaken in 2017 a wideranging set of community consultations where constituents had a chance to examine in detail community issues in our region; she is tirelessly working for the advancement of our whole community.

At the recent election, the results from the ballot boxes showed a consistent vote for our current independent Federal Member. I believe this shows a desire 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. Our Member has already demonstrated to us the voters an intimate knowledge, understanding and experience in all three of the important criteria described below the committee must consider.

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.

With these criteria in mind, I do not believe that the Division of Mayo should be abolished for the reasons below.

1. Communities of Interest

As a constituent of Mayo, I know that the collaboration between Federal and Local Government is incredibly important. 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. These regions are closely linked and interdependent on each other.

In an economic sense, Mayo contains the vast majority of South Australia's horticulture industry and seven distinct wine regions. More and more Mayo is playing a part in the vibrant tourism and holiday sector.

1. Communications and travel.

This is an important factor for regional communities and Ms Sharkie has already made a considerable impact in improving travel services to Adelaide in 2017. This new initiative is increasing access to Adelaide's vital health, education and employment resources for all demographics in the community.

1. 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. 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, Helen B Mackley RN BSc MPH [REDACTED]

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