



THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
QUEENSLAND

Submission CS22

Russel H

To: The Redistribution Committee for Queensland Australian Electoral Commission

RE: Public submission – 2026 Queensland Federal Redistribution

Divisions referred to- Groom, Maranoa & Wright

As an Elector for Maranoa, I write to comment on the Australian Labor Party's suggestion (S60) that the Somerset Region be transferred to Maranoa.

The Great Dividing Range is the most important physical feature in southern Queensland. West of it, the rivers run inland: through the Condamine, Balonne, Maranoa and Warrego into the Murray–Darling Basin, and further west into the Lake Eyre Basin. Those inland rivers shape the farming, water and flood issues that Maranoa's communities share.

The Somerset Region lies on the other side. It is the upper Brisbane River valley, home to Wivenhoe and Somerset dams, which together form the largest water storage for South East Queensland and protect Brisbane and Ipswich from flooding. Labor's own suggestion concedes the point when it describes the D'Aguilar Highway as carrying traffic from Kilcoy "across the Great Dividing Range" to the South Burnett.

Under Labor's suggestion, Maranoa would run from the Northern Territory border, across the Range, and down the Brisbane Valley to Fernvale, less than 40 kilometres from the Brisbane CBD.

Both the divisions of Groom based on Toowoomba and Maranoa should remain west of the range. These two divisions should remain to serve the interests of the people of the Darling Downs and beyond.

The alternative in S62 brings Maranoa back to the inland side of the Range. It adds Darling Downs communities such as Pittsworth, Jondaryan, Cambooya and Clifton, where creeks like Oakey, Hodgson and Kings Creek feed the Condamine. It respects the physical feature that defines this region, and keeps the Brisbane Valley with the South East Queensland communities that depend on it.

I ask the Committee to keep Maranoa and Groom west of the Range.

Yours sincerely

Russel H