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Submission CS48

David Batt MP

From: [redacted]
To: FedRedistribution - QLD
Subject: Federal Electorate of Hinkler
Date: Friday, 30 October 2026 10:29:31 AM
Attachments: [redacted]

Dear Committee Members

Re: Queensland federal redistribution — possible exclusion of Bundaberg from Hinkler

I write to raise concern about the possibility that the redistribution of the federal electorate of Hinkler could result in the whole urban area of Bundaberg no longer being included within Hinkler.

I respectfully ask the Committee to consider retaining this community within Hinkler, subject to the statutory enrolment requirements.

I recognise that the redistribution is an independent process governed by the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918, and that boundaries must meet current and projected enrolment requirements.

Nevertheless, I ask that careful consideration be given to the community of interests connecting Bundaberg with the surrounding areas of Hinkler. In particular, the assessment should examine economic and social connections, access to employment, education and health services and the transport and communication links used by residents. These considerations should inform whether removing Bundaberg would separate communities that are more appropriately represented together.

My concern is that such a change could weaken the alignment between federal representation and the communities that residents identify with and rely upon in their daily lives. I therefore request that the Committee examine alternatives that would retain as much of the Bundaberg state electorate as possible within Hinkler, while satisfying the legislative requirements and providing coherent boundaries for neighbouring electorates.

The Federal seat of Hinkler was created in 1984 and has changed over the past 40 years in previous re-distributions. However Hinkler - named after the great pioneering aviator Bert Hinkler, has always included Bundaberg in the electorate boundaries honouring his legacy.

Personally, I felt it only appropriate to mention the significance of Bert Hinkler in my first speech to Federal Parliament in July, 2025 and the honour of having our electorate named after Bundaberg’s favourite son.

Thank you for considering these concerns. I would welcome advice on the appropriate opportunity to provide further comments or supporting evidence as the redistribution progresses.

Yours faithfully

David Batt MP
Federal Member for Hinkler



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