



Submission S11

SM Swift

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From: [REDACTED]
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To: FedRedistribution - SA
Subject: My idea for the South Australian redistribution

Categories: [REDACTED]

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This month marks the 21st anniversary of Janine Haines' death, in November 2004, which was officially marked by a State Funeral and by condolence remarks in the Australian Parliament. Public commentary at the time noted the high regard Janine was held in, both for her personal integrity and public achievements.

Among these achievements, Janine was the first woman to lead an Australian political party.

I believe it is time to name an electorate in South Australia in honour of Janine Haines AM.

Janine's Senate career is bookended, before and after, by running for state and federal elections during International Women's Year (1975) and by writing *'Suffrage to Sufferance – 100 Years of women in politics'* (Allen & Unwin, 1992).

Both actions are consistent with her own words in the first *Who's Who of Australian Women*: *'I am totally committed to the fight for equal representation of women in all areas of business, commerce and government in Australia – at levels other than secretarial!'* (Methuen Australia, 1982).

In recognition of her standing in Australia's political and social history, Janine Haines is included in the Centenary of Women's Suffrage Timeline in our nation's capital.

Janine should now join that sub-set of historic women in this timeline who have electorates named after them (Edith Cowan, Dorothy Tangney, Enid Lyons, Vida Goldstein, Annabelle Rankin).

And this electorate should be in South Australia, which Janine served as a Senator in 1977-78 and 1981-90.

Then Senator Haines led the Australian Democrats through two federal election campaigns (1987, 1990) and her positive example as ‘the first’ made it easier for others to follow.

Indeed, more women than men served as Leader of the Australian Democrats over their 30-years of influence in the Senate.

In 2001, Janine Haines became a Member of the Order of Australia for ‘service to the Australian Parliament and to politics, particularly as Parliamentary Leader of the Australian Democrats, and to the community’.

In a year when representation in the Australian Parliament has finally reached gender equality, it is time for the names of electorates to follow suit.

So please retire an existing electorate name – to join other honourably retired electorate names in South Australia such as Bonython, Hawker and Wakefield – in favour of Haines.

SM Swift