



The Federal Redistribution 2008
Tasmania



Public Comment Number 9

Australian Labor Party, Tasmanian Branch
John Dowling

3 Page(s)



7 May 2008

Redistribution Committee for Tasmania
Australian Electoral Commission
2nd Floor, AMP Building
86 Collins Street
HOBART TAS 7000

Attention: Marie Neilson

Dear Ms Neilson

The Australian Labor Party (ALP), Tasmania Branch wishes to make the following comments in respect to the various public suggestions lodged with the Redistribution Committee.

Proposed renaming of Denison to Inglis-Clark

The ALP Tasmania Branch supports all suggestions made in respect to renaming the Division of Denison to Inglis-Clark.

Public Suggestion Number 1 – Mr Martin Gordon

This suggestion is not supported on the basis that it is proposing to include parts of the Brighton and Clarence Local Government Areas (LGA's) into Denison.

This would triple the number of split LGA's in Denison. Kingborough is presently the only split LGA in Denison. The ALP Tasmanian Branch suggests where possible the splitting of LGA's should be avoided.

Additionally, Public Suggestion Number 1 does not take into account that for both Brighton and Risdon Vale there is a distinct geographic boundary separating both communities from Denison, that being the Derwent River.

Public Suggestion Number 3 – Mr Paul Fenton

The ALP Tasmania Branch notes there has been no modelling of the projected enrolments for the various divisions proposed by Mr Fenton.

It is our view, that the proposed Braddon Division consisting of the Legislative Council boundaries of Murchison, Montgomery and Mersey would put this Division significantly over the maximum number of electors in this Division at the Projection time of 15 August 2012.

Public Suggestion Number 8 – Ms Linda Luther

Part B of this suggestion is not supported as it appears to fail to meet community of interest grounds, and would make it extremely difficult for communication and travel within the proposed division. The physical features of the proposed divisions are also inconsistent.

In particular it would be hard to sustain an argument there is any community of interest between the urban areas of the Clarence LGA and the East Coast communities within the Break O Day LGA.

Similarly it would be even more difficult to sustain any community of interest in the proposed Centre Division between suburban Glenorchy LGA and the North Western Tasmanian LGA of Kentish.

Public Suggestion Number 9 – Mr James Walker

This suggestion is not supported on the basis of the proposed transfer of parts of the Brighton LGA from Franklin to Denison.

Since Federation, no part of the Brighton LGA has ever been included in Denison.

The Tasmanian Government has recently announced a significant educational precinct to be established in the Brighton LGA. This will be known as the Bridgewater/Brighton Learning Federation. It will cater from early learning through to Year 12.

The ALP understands a key criteria for the establishment of electoral boundaries is community of interest. For the Brighton LGA; educational, recreational, cultural and retail interests largely remain in that community. The Derwent River is a clear divide between the Brighton LGA and Glenorchy LGA that is presently in Denison. Including parts of the Brighton LGA in Denison would undermine a well established local community of interest that is set to be strengthened through the Bridgewater/Brighton Learning Federation.

Additionally there is a well established electoral pattern of the Bridgewater and Gagebrook communities being in Franklin. Any change of boundary is likely to cause elector confusion.

Public Suggestion Number 12 – Liberal Party of Australia (Tasmanian Division) Mr Dale Archer

This suggestion is not supported.

The suggestion would double the number of split LGA's in Denison. Kingborough is presently the only split LGA in Denison. The ALP Tasmanian Branch suggests where possible the splitting of LGA's should be avoided.

This suggestion does not take into account that for the Brighton LGA there is a distinct geographic boundary, the Derwent River, separating this community from Denison.

Since Federation, no part of the Brighton LGA has ever been included in Denison.

The Tasmanian Government has recently announced a significant educational precinct to be established in the Brighton LGA. This will be known as the Bridgewater/Brighton Learning Federation. It will cater from early learning through to Year 12.

The ALP understands a key criteria for the establishment of electoral boundaries is community of interest. For the Brighton LGA; educational, recreational, cultural and retail interests largely remain in that community. The Derwent River is a clear divide between the Brighton LGA and Glenorchy LGA that is presently in Denison. Including parts of the Brighton LGA in Denison would undermine a well established local community of interest that is set to be strengthened through the Bridgewater/Brighton Learning Federation.

Additionally there is a well established electoral pattern of the Bridgewater and Gagebrook communities being in Franklin. Any change of boundary is likely to cause elector confusion.

Public Suggestion 13 – Mr Robert D M (Bob) Cotgrove

The suggestion by Mr Cotgrove to transfer parts of the Kingborough LGA from Franklin to Denison is supported.

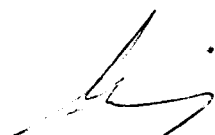
This suggestion consolidates parts of an existing LGA into Denison and does not increase the number of split LGA's into Denison as suggested by other parties. Parts of the Kingborough LGA are already in Denison.

It also strengthens the obvious community of interest between the Kingborough LGA and urban Hobart.

In conclusion the Tasmanian Branch of the Australian Labor Party thanks the Redistribution Committee for the opportunity to participate in this process.

We look forward to the publication of the Proposed Redistribution Report in August.

Yours sincerely,



John Dowling
STATE SECRETARY