

# **PUBLIC SUGGESTION**

The Federal Redistribution 2009  
NSW



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**Public Suggestion Number 34**

**by**

**Deborah Payne**

**2 Pages**

**From:** Debbie Payne [dpayne6363@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 23 April 2009 9:10 AM  
**To:** NSW Redistribution  
**Subject:** Loss of Federal rural seat

Dear Sir / Madam

I write to you in response to the article in the Land newspaper regarding the prospect of the loss of another rural seat.

I have lived in the Parkes former Gwydir electorate for over 25 years and given the difficulties we already experience, the prospect of losing representation for this area leaves me disillusioned and greatly disappointed.

Given it is a personal choice to reside in any location, and despite the challenges, rural life is rich, rewarding and worthwhile. Would it not be a reasonable expectation in a democratic society to expect that you are entitled to receive or be able to access a member of Parliament for either state or federal matters within your region?

The electorate of Parkes is an expansive area, and I am aware of the many miles Mr Coulton covers in order to give all residents reasonable access to their Federal member. Given that it is a rural area, it is diverse in cultural, socio economic status, production activities etc. it would be grossly negligent to remove this or any other representative.

I am most unhappy that this proposal has been raised again so soon after the integration of the old Gwydir seat into Parkes, and that the threat of removing the member entirely is being considered at all.

Why is it that when there is something to be cut, removed in order to sustain the greater needs of the metropolitan population that we in the country take the hit?

Ever imagined what it would be like if we seemingly few rural inhabitants moved to the city what a strain that would place on all aspects of infrastructure, employment and what would replace the economic input that production from rural areas provides?

We may be only a minority but we deserve to be considered and given adequate representation and voice in our parliaments.

Yours sincerely

Deborah Payne

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