

PUBLIC SUGGESTION

The Federal Redistribution 2009
NSW



Public Suggestion Number 60

by

Cr. William Maslin

3 Pages



Councillor

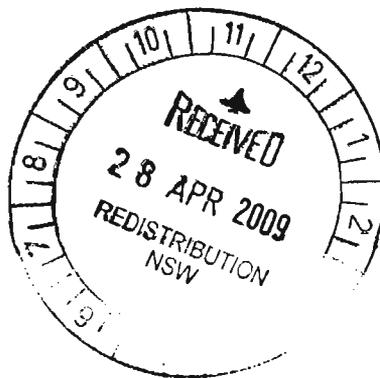
William Maslin

Faxed: 28/4/2009
3:09 PM.

Mr Ed Killesteyn
Electoral Commissioner
PO Box K406
Haymarket NSW 1240

28 April 2009

Dear Ed,



Re: Electoral Division Redistributions

I am writing with regards to the Electoral Redistributions for the State of New South Wales.

I wish to raise my concerns about the redistribution as in the past; it has been a regional electoral division that has been abolished as a result of redistributions rather than a metropolitan division.

I therefore would like to inform the Redistribution Committee of the importance of having regional divisions that are of a reasonable size. In regional New South Wales, I bet that the majority of electors can name their Federal Member compared to a metropolitan division where only a small minority could.

This would prove the importance of having equal and fair representation in regional New South Wales and that the Commission should not further disadvantage regional electors by reducing the number of regional electorates.

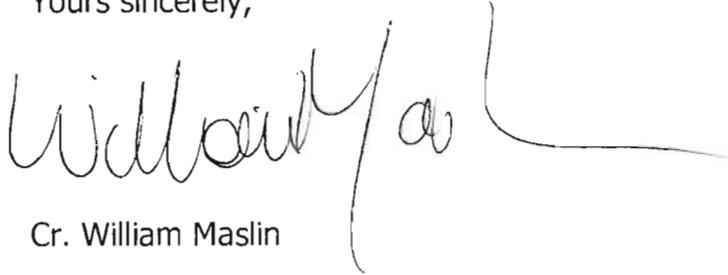
I draw you attention to the seat of Riverina which is under the 94,353 quota. Seats in central Sydney like Lowe and the seat of Sydney itself are even smaller in population than the Riverina, falling further under-quota.

In Australia, right now we have 15 members covering 790,330 square kilometres and 34 members covering 11,046 square kilometres. The city is over-represented in Federal Parliament, there are seats under-quota in the city and regional NSW was already stripped of a seat at the AEC's last redistribution in 2005/06.

You cannot expect regional electors to travel an extra one hundred or so kilometres to have access to their federal member, where in metropolitan areas, you only have to adjust the boundary by a kilometre to achieve the same result.

I am therefore urging that the Committee strongly consider reducing the metropolitan representation and more importantly, keep the seat of Riverina and all the other regional seats for that matter. The division that should go, must be one from the metropolitan area.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William Maslin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cr. William Maslin