



The Federal Redistribution 2009
QUEENSLAND



Objection Number 455

Kamilaroi Brown

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From: julialang8@bigpond.com
Sent: Thursday, 20 August 2009 11:06 AM
To: QLD Redistribution
Subject: Objection to the new Federal Division's name - WRIGHT

Good Morning

Objection to the Proposed New Queensland Division's Name

I am writing on behalf of my granddaughter, Kamilaroi Brown (DOB: 1 January 2004) who did not get the opportunity of meeting her great grandfather, Poppy Waters or as he is recognised Warrant Officer Leonard Waters who was the only Aboriginal fighter pilot in the RAAF.

My granddaughter Kamilaroi will never get experience her great grandfather's achievements in her life but if the new Federal Division's name was WATERS, Kamilaroi would know that the Federal Government acknowledge her great grandfather's contribution to the safety of Australia during the Second World War.

Everyone is aware that in 2006, the Australian Electoral Commission originally recommended "WRIGHT" as the new Electoral Division name but did not proceed with it as the public uproar regarding the name "WRIGHT". Queenslanders remember Wright as Keith Wright who was a former Australian Labor Party politician and convicted rapist.

Alternative Name suggested for the Proposed New Queensland Division's Name - WATERS

Kamilaroi's great - grandfather served this country honourably and did not receive the acknowledgement from the Labor Government following the Second World War for her contributions. Kamilaroi's great grandfather went back to his former life as a manual labourer mainly a shearer but stayed loyal to the Australian Labor Party and Unions until his death on 24 August 1993.

I understand that there were nine recommendations for Kamilaroi's great grandfather's name WATERS out of the 47 submissions received for the new Queensland Division's Name nominations on 8 May 2009. Kamilaroi's Nana was proud that the recommendations included two Members of Parliament, a Jamboree Councillor, 78th Squadron members who flew with him during World War II and his family and friends. The comments on the submissions included that "Mr Waters stands as a role model to all Australians regardless of ethnic background", "recognising him in the naming of this electorate would be contributing to Reconciliation between all Australians", "Mr Waters' life has already been commemorated in several ways such as his depiction on an Australian Post stamp and a monument being erected to him in St George. Given Mr Waters served his country and rose to the rank of Warrant Officer in the RAAF at a time in Australia's history when he wasn't eligible to vote, I believe the naming of the new Queensland electorate after him is a fitting tribute to honour his legacy and sacrifice."

Recommendation for the new Queensland Electoral Division's Name - WATERS:

That WATERS is the new Queensland Electoral Division's name instead of WRIGHT which will always be synonymise with Keith WRIGHT the former Australian Labor Party politician and convicted rapist. Kamilaroi's great grandfather served Australia honourably during a time of crisis and was proud of his heritage.

With regards

Kamilaroi Brown (great - grand daughter of Leonard Waters)
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