



The Federal Redistribution 2009  
**QUEENSLAND**



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**Objection Number 527**

**Dennis Simmons**

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**From:** Christine Simmons [cs123@tpg.com.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 21 August 2009 11:39 AM  
**To:** QLD Redistribution  
**Subject:** ELECTORAL BOUNDARY REDISTRIBUTION OBJECTION

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To Whom It May Concern:

**Re: Proposal to redraw the boundary for the federal electorate of Leichhardt:**

I wish to object to this proposal on the following grounds:

- I live about 6km west of the town of Kuranda which currently falls within the electorate of Leichhardt. The electoral commission proposal to move the boundary of this electorate to the boundary of the Cairns Regional Council and Tablelands Regional Council will exclude this area from Leichhardt and instead place it in the electorate of Kennedy.
- There is NO community of interest between the Kuranda area and the rest of the Kennedy electorate. To include the Kuranda/Speewah area within Kennedy effectively disenfranchises Kuranda/Speewah electors. Kennedy is already a huge electorate and to expect a member to effectively represent an even bigger area is unreasonable.
- Kennedy, as it is already configured, defies logic. It is a mish-mash of disparate and unconnected social, geographic, business and community interests ranging from mining to sugar cane growing, rainforest to desert, urban to isolated rural communities. Communications and road networks are predominantly north-south (ie along the coast) not east-west. The result is that no elector has any sense of community with other parts of the Kennedy electorate.
- ALL transport, communication, business, employment and social connections in the Kuranda/Speewah are with the Cairns region. This area in fact is closer to the Cairns CBD than many of the Cairns suburbs which will remain within Leichhardt. To incorporate this region into Kennedy would only add to the illogical configuration that Kennedy already represents and ignore the long-established community of interest between Kuranda/Speewah and Cairns.
- The Cairns region should come under one electorate or at least electorates that have some inter-connection. The proposed boundary redistribution fails to do this.
- I accept that boundaries have to be periodically redrawn to reflect population changes. However, the growth area in this part of Queensland is the immediate Cairns region, ie Leichhardt, NOT Kennedy. Boundary changes should more adequately reflect this.

For these reasons, the proposed redistribution should be rejected and that this redistribution be looked at again.

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