



The Federal Redistribution 2009  
**QUEENSLAND**

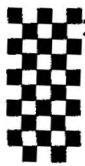


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**Objection Number 534**

**Colin White  
Chairman of the Board of Trustees  
The Good Shepherd Limited**

**3 pages**



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# The Good Shepherd Home

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## FACSIMILE MESSAGE

**To:** AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION

**Fax No:** (07) 3834 3452

**From:** THE TRUSTEES OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD HOME LTD

**Fax No:** 07 47792093

**Date:** 21<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2009

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**Message:**

**Attached is an official objection to the proposed redistribution of the seats of Herbert and Dawson..**

No. of pages following - 2

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17<sup>th</sup> August 2009

The Australian Electoral Commission  
G P O Box 2590  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Commissioner

On behalf of the current and future residents of The Good Shepherd Home, The Trustees of The Good Shepherd Home Limited object to the proposed redistribution in the seat of Herbert which would see significant parts of Townsville including the Good Shepherd Home become a part of the division of Dawson.

These are several reasons for our objection –

- The Good Shepherd Home which is located in Annandale, a central suburb of Townsville, and less than 2 kilometres from the electoral office of the member for Herbert, is a 240 bed residential aged care facility which provides its services primarily to residents of Townsville. Issues affecting the Good Shepherd Home have a flow on affect to the residents of Townville seeking aged care services. The Home and its residents share no community of interest with the electorate of Dawson or the city of Mackay in which the representative for that area is located. The issues affecting the Good Shepherd Home and its residents can only adequately be attended to by a member residing in Townsville.
- The Good Shepherd Home has significant ties to The Townsville Hospital and the Townsville Health Service District generally. The Home currently houses 17 Townsville Hospital patients as part of an effort to relieve pressure on the Hospital's waiting list. There is significant commonality in the issues that face both the Hospital and the Good Shepherd. Whilst it is proposed that the Good Shepherd will fall within the boundary of Dawson, The Townsville Hospital and the administrative office of the Townsville Health Service District are both located in the federal seat of Herbert. This is of particular concern as it is likely that the Federal Government will assume the State's responsibilities in health care.
- The focus for the Member for Dawson is currently and will remain with the city of Mackay – a significant regional city in its own right. It is not realistic to expect the Member for Dawson to give either a nursing home, or any other of the proportionately small number of constituents located 390kms away in Townsville, the same time and consideration as issues raised by Mackay based constituents.
- Neither the suburb of Annandale, nor the City of Townsville in which the Good Shepherd Home is located, have any community, economic or regional links with the district of Dawson based in Mackay.

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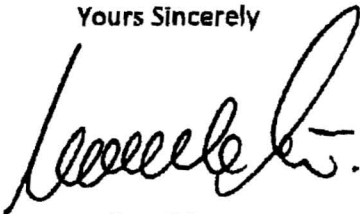
The Australian Electoral Commission

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The Trustees of The Good Shepherd Home do not consider inclusion in an electorate whose representative will be over 390 kilometres away adequate or serious representation. Due to both economic and timeliness factors, it is impractical for the Home to raise issues with a member located in Mackay. The representation of the Good Shepherd, the Home's residents and the constituents of Annandale will effectively be removed if the proposed redistribution is to proceed. It has been the understanding of the Home's Trustees, Council and Management that, when determining electoral boundaries, serious consideration was given to Community of Interest. Clearly if the proposed distribution is allowed to proceed this cannot be the case.

We trust the above reasons will be given due consideration in ensuring all Australians receive their entitlement to true representation in the drafting of the federal electoral boundaries.

Yours Sincerely



Colin White  
Chairman of the Board of Trustees  
The Good Shepherd Limited

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