



Objection 22

Wayne and Judi McKail

2 pages

From: Judi McKail
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Subject: Objection to the redistribution of Victorian electoral boundaries
Date: Tuesday, 10 April 2018 10:20:02 AM

To whom it may concern:

We wish to lodge an objection to the redistribution of Victorian electoral boundaries.

Therefore we refer to the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918.

Item 66 (3)(b)

- (b) subject to paragraph (a), shall give due consideration, in relation to each proposed Electoral Division, to:
- (i) community of interests within the proposed Electoral Division, including economic, social and regional interests;
 - (ii) means of communication and travel within the proposed Electoral Division;
 - (iv) the physical features and area of the proposed Electoral Division; and
 - (v) the boundaries of existing Divisions in the State or Territory;

and Item 73 (4)(b)

- (b) subject to paragraph (a), shall give due consideration, in relation to each Electoral Division, to:
- (i) community of interests within the Electoral Division, including economic, social and regional interests;
 - (ii) means of communication and travel within the Electoral Division;
 - (iv) the physical features and area of the Electoral Division; and
 - (v) the boundaries of existing Divisions in the State or Territory;

In Maryborough (Vic) and surrounding areas, last Federal redistribution our electoral division was moved to the division of Wannon from Bendigo or Bendigo West.

This created a lot of dissatisfaction amongst constituents as we felt there was nothing in common that related our area to the Wannon electorate, compared to being connected with Bendigo. Distance to the Warrnambool based Federal office was at least a 2.5 hour drive one way. For constituents to access this by public transport meant travelling to Melbourne by train, then by another train to Warrnambool - many hours travel.

Now the proposal is to redistribute our electoral boundaries once again, this time placing us into the division of Mallee. Once more it is felt by constituents that there is little in common with this division, and the distance to the electoral office in Mildura is a four hour drive one way. For those reliant on public transport, this means many hours of travel in a not so comfortable V Line bus, leaving Maryborough at near on midnight and arriving at 6.50am.

Surely common interests of areas should be taken into consideration before these redistributions are done. Bendigo is a good example of common interests for our community, or even Ballarat. Tourism and industry is what we have in common with these larger towns, not the broad acre farming that is seen in the Mallee

region, nor the intensive grape / fruit growing farming that is seen in the Riverina area. Our region is connected with the Golden Triangle tourist trail, which has nothing to do with the Mallee region either. Central Victorian regions draw those interested in gold and our history, amongst many other things.

Better passenger train services with timetables that enable commuters to reach the Melbourne CBD would see even more people moving to our region and commuting for employment, as is now evident in Bendigo, Ballarat and Castlemaine by the use of the trains. This would increase electoral division numbers.

Federal MPs who are based several hours drive away are not often seen in distant areas of their electorates and it is felt that the representation by said members is lack lustre and communities are overlooked. We have not seen Federal offices set up in our town for residents to visit to voice concerns. Being in a division with a much closer Electoral office would be advantageous to all.

Therefore we ask that this redistribution be considered and our area be placed with divisions sharing those common interests.

Yours sincerely,

Wayne and Judi McKail

