



# Objection 255

Richard Vear

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**From:** Richard Vear  
**Sent:** Thursday, 10 May 2018 11:31 AM  
**To:** FedRedistribution - SA  
**Subject:** Southern boundary changes to the Boothby electorate

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

Democracy is all about effective representation and it is most unfortunate that SA, due to its reduction in population is required to lose a Federal member from its Parliament but that's the Constitution. However to move an appreciable number of voters from Boothby to the seat of Kingston is reducing these voters effective representation from our Federal Parliament. The large physical size of some the SA electorates is daunting enough, for any sitting members but to create more large size electorates is not very efficient or supportive of Australia's democratic processes.

There is a principle of 'one vote one value' and the need to avoid any sort of gerrymander, as has occurred in SA's distant past but by simply adjusting the southern boundaries of Boothby is this just a lazy way for the Commission to simply massage the numbers?

Kingston has 119,268 electors and Boothby has 125,502, has the Commission considered a boundary redistribution of Kingston's northern boundary to be part of Mayo, ie an easterly move to increase its voting numbers?

Moving Aldinga from Kingston to Mayo, again the electors have less in common to the Hill's voters.

The suburbs of Flagstaff Hill, Aberfoyle Park and Happy Valley are currently in the federal electorate of Boothby. We have less in common, have different issues than voters in the seat of Kingston. Boothby is where these suburbs should remain to enable our common interests to be pursued.

Our community identifies more with the Mitcham Hills and Adelaide Plains areas, which include suburbs like Blackwood and Marion, than it does with the far southern suburbs such as Noarlunga, Christies Beach, Hackham West and Morphett Vale in the federal electorate of Kingston.

In our area we share much more community, retail and transport infrastructure with the rest of Boothby than we do with residents in the federal electorate of Kingston. We use Happy Valley Drive, Flagstaff Road, Marion Road and South Road to get to the city, or shopping precincts at Westfield Marion. We use Main Road through Blackwood to get to the city as well. We commute to train stations in Boothby that service the Seaford, Tonsley and Belair Lines.

Most residents in our area will use Flinders Medical Centre and Flinders University located at Bedford Park in the heart of Boothby at some point in their lives, and many work at these centres. These community of interest, travel, economic and social factors should be given much more weight by the Electoral Commission when deciding future boundaries than environmental features like the Sturt River.

With the Onkaparinga Council based so far away in Noarlunga, we want to retain access to our locally based Federal Member of Parliament in Boothby, rather than a Federal MP in Morphett Vale.

I object to the Commission's draft boundaries that will see our area moved out of Boothby, in many cases, for the first time in over 20 years.

Effective representation is at the heart of any quality democracy, these proposed changes will be counter productive to that outcome.

Yours sincerely, Richard Vear

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