

**SUGGESTION No 2**

**Christopher Pyne, MP  
Member for Sturt**

# 1999 FEDERAL BOUNDARIES REDISTRIBUTION (South Australia)

**Submission**

**From**

**Christopher Pyne, Member for Sturt**



## **Introduction**

This submission attempts to assist the Redistribution Committee ("the Committee") to arrange the boundaries of the seat of Sturt.

The submission has in mind that the projected enrolment in three and a half years time be within the bounds set down by the Electoral Act 1918 ("the Act") while complying with the four criteria in the Act.

These criteria are:

1. Community interests within the division, including economic, regional and social interests.
2. Means of communication and travel within a division.
3. Physical features and area.
4. Existing boundaries of divisions.

The details of the submission are confined to redistributing the boundaries of Sturt and to a lesser extent, the seats affected by these changes.

However, by using the computer, kindly made available to me at the offices of the Australian Electoral Commission, I have been able to construct a submission that incorporates the whole state and satisfies the criteria for all other eleven seats in South Australia.

## **Enrolment**

The seat of Sturt is currently below the average projected enrolment of 87 240. It is required that the seat be within 3.5% of the average.

Sturt needs to gain enrolled voters on the projected figures. The simplest approach is for the seat to maintain its existing boundaries as far as practicable while gaining new enrolled voters from an adjoining electorate.

The seat of Adelaide is below the average projected enrolment. One way for Adelaide to gain enrolled voters is for Sturt to provide them from an area that has a community of interest with Adelaide.

The seat of Mayo is well above the average projected enrolment. This submission proposes that the most efficient means to bring Sturt to within the required enrolment (without deviating widely from existing boundaries of both Sturt and other surrounding electorates) is for Sturt to gain all its additional enrolled voters from the seat of Mayo.

Under this submission Sturt would have a projected enrolment of 85 492 (2 per cent less than zero variation from the average). Mayo would have a projected enrolment of 88 676 (1.65 per cent more than zero variation from the average). Adelaide would have a projected enrolment of 88 235 (1.14 per cent more than zero variation from the average).

### **New Sturt Boundaries**

I propose that Sturt's:

- northern boundary (Grand Junction Rd), and
- southern boundary (Glen Osmond Rd and Mt Barker Road to the City of Burnside's eastern Council boundary),

remain unchanged.

I propose that the western boundary remain unchanged from Greenhill Rd, Fullarton Rd, Dequetteville Tce, North Tce to Payneham Rd.

For the rest of the western boundary I propose that the new Sturt boundary:

- extend east on Payneham Rd as far as OG Rd, continue north on OG Rd to North East Rd, head west to rejoin the current Sturt boundary of Hampstead Rd as far as Grand Junction Rd.

The seat of Adelaide requires an increase in its enrolment. I propose that the area bounded by Payneham Rd, OG Rd and North East Rd be included in Adelaide.

The suburbs that would be transferred to Adelaide are Vale Park, Marden and part of Klemzig.

There are strong community of interest bonds between these suburbs and the seat of Adelaide. They also share communication and transport facilities in common.

This adjustment (together with changes to the other eleven seats' boundaries) allows the Committee to satisfy its requirement that each South Australian seat's estimated enrolment in three and a half years be within three and a half per cent of the average estimated enrolment. (Shown in the enclosed table from the AEC's computer).

The changes I am proposing on the eastern boundary will enhance the application of the four indicative criteria.

I propose that Sturt's eastern boundary be:

- the City of Burnside's eastern Council boundary to Old Norton Summit Rd (this is the current boundary); and
- Glen Stuart Rd, Morialta Rd, Stradbroke Rd, Hamilton Tce, Gorge Rd, Darley Rd, Sudholz Rd, North East Rd and Wandana Av (this would be a new boundary).

In summary, the new boundary would herald the following changes:

- Sturt gains – the suburb of Paradise west of Darley Rd, the suburb of Rostrevor west of Stradbroke Rd, the suburb of Newton, the remainder of the suburb of Magill that was not part of Sturt; and
- Sturt loses – the portion of the suburb of Holden Hill that was part of Sturt, the suburb of Vale Park, the suburb of Marden and part of the suburb of Klemzig.

There are strong communities of interest within these areas.

They are physically within a small geographic area of 66 square kilometres.

My experience of the last seven years indicates that constituents, particular the elderly, in this area find both communication and travel within my electorate satisfactory.

The area fits neatly into the overall topography of metropolitan Adelaide in terms of major roads, rivers and the Hills.

The existing boundaries are maintained as far as practicable.

### **The Four Criteria**

**“Community interests within the division, including economic, social and regional interests”.**

The suburbs of Paradise, Magill, Rostrevor and Newton have strong community of interest ties with the current electorate of Sturt.

1. The local government boundaries in the eastern and north eastern suburbs lend themselves to a federal seat between the City of Adelaide and the Hills.

The Cities of Burnside, Norwood/Payneham/St Peters and Campbelltown share similar age, income, family relationship, education, household, background, language and career demographics which strengthen the community of interest bonds between them. All the City of Burnside, a large majority of the City of

Norwood/Payneham/St Peters and almost half of the City of Campbelltown form the major part of the seat of Sturt.

Magill, Paradise, Newton and Rostrevor are all contained within the City of Campbelltown.

Including more of the City of Campbelltown in Sturt will maintain the consistent demographic make-up of the seat. It would not require the introduction of another local government district into the seat.

The community, sporting and social groups in the area reflect the local government boundaries referred to above. By concentrating local government districts in one seat it necessarily adds to the community of interest in an electorate.

As Magill, Paradise, Newton and Rostrevor are all suburbs in the City of Campbelltown, their addition to Sturt adds to the community of interest in the area.

The suburb of Holden Hill falls entirely within the City of Tea Tree Gully Council area. No other part of the City of Tea Tree Gully is included in Sturt. It would be in keeping with the community of interest in the area for this part of the City of Tea Tree Gully to be reunited with its remainder in Mayo.

2. The constituents of the suburbs of Newton, Rostrevor, Magill and Paradise do their shopping and take their entertainment in the same shopping precincts as the current constituents of Sturt.

Foodland Stores have three shopping centres adjacent to the current border between Sturt and Mayo – at Newton (Mayo), Magill and Windsor Gardens (Sturt). They are placed in such a way as to attract consumers from the surrounding suburbs. In the case of Newton, many of those consumers live on the Sturt side of the boundary and in the case of Magill and Windsor Gardens the reverse is true.

Bi-Lo has two shopping centres adjacent to the current border between Sturt and Mayo – at Rostrevor (Mayo) and Campbelltown (Sturt). They advertise to, and attract shoppers from surrounding suburbs. In the case of Rostrevor, many of these live on the Sturt side of the boundary and in the case of Campbelltown many live on the Mayo side.

Coles supermarkets have one shopping centre adjacent to and another nearby the boundary with Mayo – at Newton (Mayo) and Firlie (Sturt). They draw their shoppers from constituents on both sides of the street. In the case of Newton, from Sturt and in the case of Firlie, from Mayo.

3. Constituents of the suburbs of Paradise, Magill, Rostrevor and Newton practice their religion with current constituents of Sturt.

The Roman Catholic parishes of Hectorville (Sturt), Tranmere (Sturt) and Newton (Mayo) all have within their parish boundaries areas of both Sturt and Mayo. In the case of Newton at least one third of its area is in Sturt with the balance in

Mayo. Tranmere is largely within Sturt with about one-fifth in Mayo. Hectorville is split approximately equally between Sturt and Mayo.

The Roman Catholic parishes of Hectorville, Newton and Payneham conduct Italian cultural and religious festivals as part of their calendar of events. These draw many thousands of participants each year from the surrounding area. The Italian community is well represented in the north eastern and eastern suburbs lying in Sturt and Mayo. The members of the organising committees for festivals such as Santa Maria di Montevirgine, Saint Anthony, San Rocco, Santa Maria del Arco and others are drawn from Sturt and Mayo.

The Anglican parishes of Campbelltown (Sturt) and Magill (Mayo) are both geographically split evenly between suburbs in Sturt and Paradise, Magill, Rostrevor and Newton.

The Lutheran parishes of Glynde (Sturt) and Payneham (Sturt) are not far from the boundary with Mayo and Magill (Sturt) is adjacent to the boundary. While the Lutheran Church does not have formal parish boundaries, the parishes are located in areas that draw parishioners from both Sturt and Mayo. This is especially so in the case of Magill parish.

4. The constituents of Magill, Rostrevor, Paradise and Newton have a firm community of interest bond with the constituents of the current seat of Sturt established through their common membership and activity in the myriad community, sporting and social groups that exist in the north eastern and eastern suburbs.

Listed in the local government directories for Port Adelaide-Enfield, Campbelltown, Burnside or Norwood/Payneham/St Peters Councils are:

- 55 community, sporting and social groups in the Magill, Paradise, Newton and Rostrevor area,
- 67 community, sporting and social groups in suburbs adjacent to Magill, Paradise, Newton and Rostrevor but in the seat of Sturt,
- 63 community, sporting and social groups in suburbs in close proximity of Magill, Rostrevor, Paradise and Newton in the seat of Sturt but not adjacent to the boundary with Mayo.

All these clubs, associations and community groups draw their membership from the surrounding area known generally as the eastern and north eastern suburbs. There are none which draw a noteworthy number of members from the rest of the seat of Mayo.

In most cases the only point of difference between members of the clubs, associations and groups is the boundary between Mayo and Sturt.

Most of these clubs, associations and groups are replicated in the Hills. These Hills clubs in turn draw their members from the suburbs and communities in the remainder of the seat of Mayo that is in the Hills not in metropolitan Adelaide.

5. Families in the suburbs of Magill, Rostrevor, Paradise and Newton access the same primary, junior primary and secondary schools as families in Sturt and vice versa.

None of the primary or junior primary schools are zoned, meaning children can attend these schools from anywhere that is convenient to the family.

There are four primary and junior primary schools in Magill, Hectorville and Campbelltown. There are three primary and junior primary schools in Newton, Rostrevor and Paradise. These schools draw their students from families in both Sturt and the metropolitan part of Mayo.

There are three zoned secondary schools on the Sturt/Mayo boundary. The Windsor Gardens High School zone includes areas in Sturt as well as the area of Paradise proposed for inclusion in the redistributed seat of Sturt. The Norwood/Morialta High School has a campus in Sturt and a campus in Mayo. Its zone includes areas in Sturt and the suburbs of Magill and Rostrevor in Mayo. The Charles Campbell High School in Paradise is located in Mayo and has within its zone areas in central Sturt as well as Paradise and Newton.

**“Means of communication and travel within a division”.**

Constituents in Magill, Rostrevor, Newton and Paradise have many reasons to feel that they would be better suited from a communication and travel viewpoint by being constituents in Sturt rather than Mayo.

1. Australia Post assigns areas to each of its Mail Centres. Australia Post clearly regards Magill, Rostrevor, Paradise and Newton as part of the north eastern and eastern suburb catchment area for postal services.

The constituents in the area use postal services in common. They do not travel further into Mayo to use postal services as it would be a greater distance in travel and more time consuming.

The Glynde Mail Centre covers the north eastern area of Adelaide. It includes the suburbs of Magill, Rostrevor, Newton and Paradise with the rest of the suburbs that form the central and northern part of Sturt. The Glynde Mail Centre does not include Holden Hill.

2. The proximity of the Sturt Electorate Office and the constituents of the north eastern and eastern suburbs affinity with the plains as opposed to the Hills, has meant that I have handled a disproportionate number of matters for constituents in Mayo.

These constituents who are resident in Mayo have demonstrated by coming to the Sturt Electorate Office that they find it difficult or impracticable to travel to the Mayo Electorate Office in Stirling.

Since 1994 when I began to keep records of this category of constituent in an easily accessible form I have written letters to, or on behalf of, 291 constituents in

Mayo. Of these 72 have been from the suburbs of Paradise, Newton or Rostrevor (I am unable to easily separate Magill as it lies currently in both Mayo and Sturt).

My office has taken innumerable telephone contacts with constituents of Mayo whose requests have been able to be satisfied without recourse to writing.

This demonstrates that many of the enrolled constituents requiring assistance in the north eastern suburbs find it easier to access someone other than their elected representative purely because of travel distances and convenience issues.

3. Public transport guides indicate that the bus routes that service Magill, Rostrevor, Paradise and Newton service the current seat of Sturt and not the rest of the seat of Mayo.

This is the case for routes 102, 103, 105, 106, 108, 109, 175, 176, 177, 179, 179C, 576, 577, 580, 580P, 581, 581N.

There are no public transport routes that connect Magill, Rostrevor, Paradise and Newton with the majority of the remainder of the current seat of Mayo.

A constituent living in any one of those suburbs is required to take public transport from their home to the city centre and then from the city centre via the Mt Barker Freeway to the Mayo Electorate Office in order to access their local MP!

This is a particularly difficult task for older constituents seeking help from their local MP. Older constituents are disproportionately represented amongst those that need help in dealing with Government services. They are also disproportionately represented amongst those that use public transport.

To give an example – a person living in Newton who wishes to leave home about 9.00am to have an appointment with their Federal MP can take the 179 bus at 9.00am arriving in the city at 9.30am. At 9.55am they can then take the 163F bus to Stirling, arriving at 10.23am. After an hour and a half in Stirling they could then take a 163F bus back to the city at 12.02pm arriving at 12.33pm. The next 179 bus leaves at 12.38pm and arrives at Newton at 1.08pm.

Assuming he or she make all the connections, the shortest round trip is over four hours.

The Sturt Electorate Office is six to eight minutes bus ride from the city. For the constituents of Magill, Paradise, Newton and Rostrevor their travel times and convenience would be enhanced by their inclusion in Sturt.

4. Local community newspapers in the eastern suburbs include Paradise, Rostrevor, Magill and Newton within the boundaries of their newspaper circulation.

Local newspaper proprietors understand that these constituents have more in common with the constituents of the plains than the Hills. Their advertisers know



that the constituents in Newton, Paradise, Magill and Rostrevor do their shopping on the plain and not in the Hills.

The readers of the local newspapers receive the same information about their local area, yet some are in Mayo and others in Sturt.

The *Payneham Messenger* has within its boundary of circulation the central suburbs of Sturt as well as Paradise, Magill, Rostrevor and Newton.

The *Billboard* includes within its circulation the central and northern part of Sturt as well as Paradise, Magill, Rostrevor and Newton.

Local newspapers are a significant source of communication within local communities.

### **“Physical features and area”.**

The physical features of metropolitan Adelaide are well known to the Committee. In the case of Sturt they represent a strong argument for the continuation of a seat based in the eastern and north eastern suburbs.

1. Sturt is bounded by the Parklands in the west. This is a natural physical boundary that should be maintained. It is complemented by the foothills in the east which form another natural boundary that allow a seat to exist on the plain in between.

Magill, Paradise, Rostrevor and Newton exist on that plain. Their inclusion in Sturt would be in keeping with the criteria that natural boundaries should be observed where possible.

In the north, Grand Junction Road and in the south Glen Osmond Road are the boundary roads. Both are significant main roads that traditionally divide metropolitan Adelaide into a familiar grid. Sturt has traditionally been the eastern sector of this grid.

The inclusion of Magill, Paradise, Rostrevor and Newton in Sturt would not upset these two boundaries.

### **“Existing boundaries of divisions”**

In the 1992 redistribution of South Australian federal electorates the seat of Hawker was abolished and the state's representation reduced to twelve seats from thirteen. Under those circumstances it was difficult for the Committee to maintain the existing boundaries of the seats.

That is not the case in 1999.

1. The inclusion of Magill, Rostrevor, Paradise and Newton in Sturt is a small change. It meets the Act's requirement that the number of enrolled voters in each seat be within 3.5% of the average number of enrolled voters in all seats in three and a half years.

This change would also allow Mayo to shed a large number of its enrolled voters to a neighbouring seat consistent with the needs of the Committee in this redistribution.

In both cases it does this while largely maintaining existing boundaries.

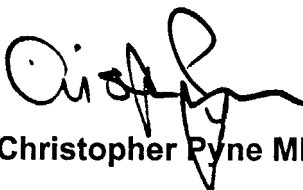
2. Historically, Magill, Rostrevor, Newton and Paradise have been located in Sturt. Relocating these suburbs to Sturt would be consistent with boundaries that have existed in the eastern and north eastern suburbs since the creation of the seat in 1949.

Supporting documentation is too lengthy to include with this submission but is available upon request.

Enclosed with this submission is a map indicating in a short hand version how this proposal alters the boundaries for Sturt, Adelaide and Mayo. Also enclosed is a table of data from the Electoral Commission that demonstrates that the proposal satisfies the criteria under the Act for the other eleven seats.

I am available to appear before the Committee to discuss this submission and any other matters in relation to this redistribution over the course of your inquiry.

Thank you for your consideration.



Christopher Pyne MP

23 Feb 1999 15:26:50	CCDs	Actual Enrol	Var% (A) <10%	Projected Enrol	Var% (P) <3.5%	Population	Area (sq km)
Adelaide	288	87,574	2.56	88,235	1.14	124,022	68.84
Barker	302	85,199	-0.22	87,470	0.26	115,977	53,928.42
Bonython	226	82,400	-3.5	87,834	0.68	127,385	340.22
Boothby	252	86,558	1.37	86,314	-1.06	114,385	125.15
Grey	357	84,243	-1.34	84,395	-3.26	126,122	895,451.07
Hindmarsh	275	87,440	2.41	87,932	0.79	113,148	64.59
Kingston	223	83,792	-1.87	86,948	-0.33	120,616	347.51
Makin	196	84,038	-1.58	87,037	-0.23	116,658	106.46
Mayo	246	85,815	0.5	88,676	1.65	118,315	2,729.29
Port Adelaide	266	87,184	2.11	87,064	-0.2	119,870	164.17
Sturt	237	83,820	-1.83	85,492	-2	111,379	66.14
Wakefield	290	86,569	1.39	89,478	2.57	119,468	30,696.78
<b>Average for all Divisions</b>							
	263	85,386	0	87,239.58	0	118,945.42	82,007.39
<b>Sum of all Divisions</b>							
	3,158	1,024,632	0	1,046,875	0	1,427,345	984,088.64

