

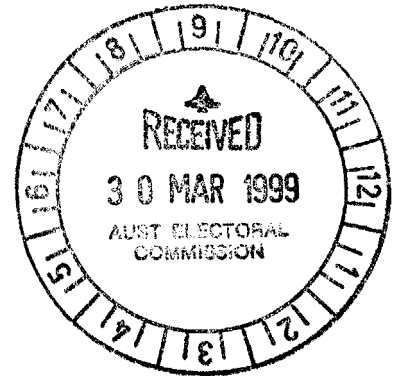


THE HON. TRISH WORTH MP

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs
Member for Adelaide

29th March 1999

Redistribution Committee for South Australia
AEC
GPO Box 2834
ADELAIDE SA 5001



Dear Sirs

Further to the AEC receiving submissions for the redistribution of boundaries for Federal electorates, and subsequent invitations to interested parties to comment on those submissions, I have detailed below my concerns with suggestion 5 from the Australian Labor Party (SA division).

5.1 *"For any federal division based on CBDs, Commissions are hard pressed to construct boundaries that reflect a broad community of interest in terms of shared socio-economic levels or even lifestyle or other demographic identifiers."*

I do not agree. There is a broad community of interest that is shared by all residents of inner city suburbs.

They are, as stated in the ALP suggestions, *"united by their proximity to the CBD"*. As I explained in my suggestions, people living in inner city suburbs have chosen to live where they are close to their place of work. Some of my constituents tell me they choose to live close to the city so they don't have to rely on private transport that they cannot afford. The parklands unite the city and the inner city suburbs as a place for leisure, recreation and exercise.

I would like to add that the inner city suburbs are older, settled, traditional areas. These old established homes on all sides of the city are being renovated, have been renovated or are likely to be renovated in the not too distant future.

Old inner city suburbs around the CBD include:

- Parkside, Unley, Goodwood, Millswood, Hyde Park, Malvern, Fullarton, Myrtle Bank, in the south of the electorate;
- St Peters, Joslin, Royston Park, Walkerville, Nailsworth and Prospect to the north and north east;
- Mile End, Thebarton, Bowden and Brompton in the west; and

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- Eastwood, Kent Town, Frewville, Glenunga, Rose Park, Dulwich, Toorak Gardens in the east.

All these inner city suburbs belong in one electorate.

The submission by Sophie Pantelios concurs, stating:

"The movement of the Western Boundary north south along Portrush Rd divides the older inner Adelaide suburbs from the later generation of development. Suburbs adjoining the Parklands will now be in the seat of Adelaide, their proximity to the city forming a neat centralised division."

M. Virgili also advocates that Adelaide should be an inner city electorate and should therefore include those suburbs west of Portrush Rd.

"The proposed boundary very neatly captures the inner city suburbs and councils immediately surrounding the city of Adelaide who steadfastly rejected amalgamation overtures from neighbouring suburban councils through the local government reform process."

The ALP submission changes Adelaide from an inner city electorate to an inner north-eastern electorate with a few suburbs south of Greenhill Road seemingly tacked on as an after-thought. This proposal is a radical departure from the current Adelaide boundaries and would fundamentally change the nature of the Adelaide electorate.

The submission maintains that *"the current Division of Adelaide contains several disparate communities"*. It therefore defies logic for the submission to join the southern area onto what would become essentially a north-eastern suburbs electorate. It removes what the submission refers to as the electorate's only unifying feature – proximity to the CBD.

While the communities north of Regency Rd in particular differ in socio-demographic features from other parts of the electorate, it should be noted that it too is an older established area.

It is also important to bear in mind that the eastern boundary of Unley Council is Glen Osmond Rd. The ALP submission removes the eastern part of the local government area as well as the western part (between Goodwood Rd and South Rd).

The recent state redistribution resulted in the suburbs of Eastwood, Glenunga, Frewville and Glen Osmond becoming part of the new state electorate of Unley. The State Redistribution Committee must have noted a community of interest between those suburbs east of Glen Osmond Rd and the former Unley electorate. At the very least, the current Adelaide boundary along Glen Osmond Rd should not be shifted west to exclude part of the Unley Council. Neither should the western boundary be moved to exclude the other part of Unley Council.

Former federal Commissioners have also in the past seen a community of interest between those suburbs south of the city and those to the east. From 1969 to 1992, Boothby encompassed those suburbs south of the city as well as those to the east – as far north as Kensington Rd.

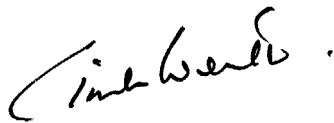
To exclude those suburbs to the east and west of the CBD would change dramatically the flavour of the Adelaide electorate. There is a distinct "inner city culture". People choose to live close to the city because it provides a distinctive lifestyle.

The CBD and adjoining suburbs contain peak bodies, community groups and institutions such as hospitals, universities, etc. Many nurses, students, volunteers and community workers, professionals etc, have all chosen to live in close proximity to the city. It is extremely unifying.

I trust that these comments are helpful to the redistribution process being undertaken by the AEC. I would welcome the opportunity to make a verbal presentation to the Committee to particularly emphasize and expand on the issues surrounding Adelaide's "*community of interest*".

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Trish Worth".

Trish Worth
Member for Adelaide