



The Federal Redistribution 2003  
QUEENSLAND



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**Public Suggestion Number      2**

**Peter Murray**

**2 pages**

**SUGGESTION****h - - 2**

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The Redistribution Committee for Queensland,  
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Collection House,  
488 Queen Street,  
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By Fax 38319683.



I wish to make the following suggestions as to the proposed redistribution for the Federal House of Representatives seats in Queensland taking into account that there must be one extra Federal seat and that any redistribution must take into account the community of interest, etc; means of communications and travel, etc; the physical features, etc. of the electorate; and the boundaries of existing seats within the State.

*A priori*, there has to be an extra seat. The recent and foreseeable growth in the state is concentrated in the south-east corner of the State. The new seat logically has to be somewhere in the south-east and probably south of the Brisbane River.

The seat of Ryan has always been in the western fringe of Brisbane. It has had a community of interest centred around the areas along Moggill and Brookvale Roads bounded by the Brisbane River, Mount Cootha and a north-south line to the Northern bank of the River - and that line has gradually moved west over time. However the electorate of Ryan for over fifty years has had a clear community of interest in the western suburbs and - mostly - north of the Brisbane River.

Some aspects of this community of interest relate to the very existence of the Brisbane River that acts as a natural border between the southern and north-western suburbs. The Walter Taylor Bridge and the Centenary Bridge both are so heavily engaged with through traffic as to act as a disincentive to community of interest; the existence of major shopping centres at Centenary and Indooroopilly acts as foci for the populations on each side of the River; and analysis of the demographic data available

**SUGGESTION****4--2**

shows that there is a higher concentration of academic and professional workers - many of whom work in the City and the on the northern side of the present electorate - compared to patterns of occupation and employment on the southern side of the electorate.

There are other significant differences in employment patterns and other demographics all of which demonstrate to me that the northern part of the existing seat of Ryan has less in common with the southern part of the existing seat than the northern part has in common with areas to its immediate north.

I would suggest that the extra seat be on the southern side of the River and that all the existing seats south of the River be reviewed with a view to taking up as much as possible of the extra quota within the new and the existing seats. The seat of Ryan should be re-drawn so that it is entirely on the north side of the River and that extra voters are obtained for Ryan from the existing seats to its immediate north and north-east.

This will allow Ryan to re-establish its traditional community of interest (north of the river and on the western fringes of the Greater Brisbane area) and will allow some adjustments of the other seats north of the River but still part of the growth area of the South-east of Queensland.

*In summary*, I am suggesting that the extra seat be on the south side of the Brisbane River. Some of that extra quota be taken up with the creation of the new seat and the adjustment of some at least of the seats south of the River (perhaps one half to two thirds of a quota); that the seat of Ryan be on the north side of the River; that the electors lost out of the southern part of the existing seat of Ryan be replaced with electors from neighbouring seats on the north side of the River; and that the seats on the north side of the river be adjusted (taking into account the four criteria mentioned in your advertisement).

This would the restore the Brisbane River as a natural boundary line between seats on the north and south side of the river and that to me addresses the community of interest and your other criteria in the most meaningful way.

Yours faithfully,



Peter Murray.