



The Federal Redistribution 2003
QUEENSLAND



Public Suggestion Number 27

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SUGGESTION

27

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20th June 2003

The Chairman,
Redistribution Committee of Queensland
GPO Box 2590
BRISBANE, QLD. 4001

Dear Sir,

I have been advised that a number of persons have suggested that the new Federal electorate in Queensland should be named to honour the late Senator Neville Bonner.

I wish to add my sincere support to this proposal.

Neville Bonner was a man who set an exemplary example of high standards of character and achievement to all Australians.

He will be remembered by most Australians because he was an indigenous Australian Member of Parliament. While this in itself was a remarkable achievement, especially at that time, it understates the outstanding human qualities of a man who would have been a remarkable achiever whatever his birth or background.

Neville Bonner is remembered by many of us for the quiet and dignified way in which he conducted himself, and for refusing to demean himself by descending to anger, hatred or self pity in his inevitable confrontations with discrimination and racism.

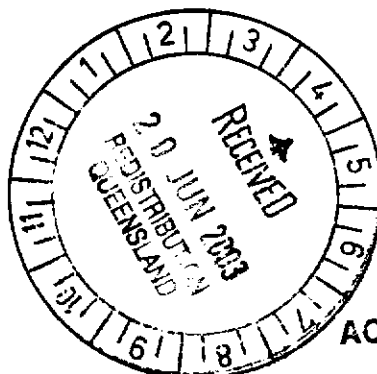
Even when he was abandoned by some members of his own political party for perceived political gain he bore no animosity, nor did he lose his faith or reduce his support of the Liberal Party of Australia, which he continued until his death. In particular, he encouraged young members of the Liberal Party to engage in debate of political philosophy and policy, recognising in the young the same questing for improvement of our society which had led him to adopt and support the principles of the Liberal Party and to enter Parliament.

Neville Bonner's lasting contribution to Australian society lies within that example of refusing to allow his beliefs and principals to be compromised or undermined, and his genuine goodwill and caring, and efforts to make a difference, for all Australians.

I commend to you that there is no person in contemporary Australian history who is more deserving of this honour of permanent recognition than the late Neville Bonner.

Yours Faithfully,

David Scarr



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