



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 1863

Name: New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies

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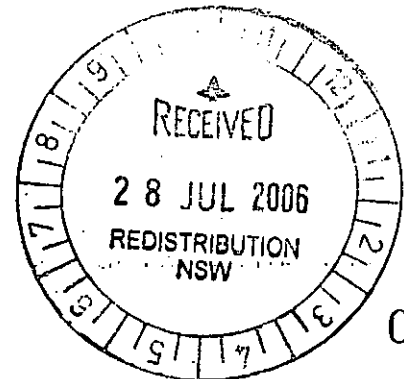
The Representative Organisation of NSW Jewry
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24 July 2006

Mr Ian Campbell
The Electoral Commissioner and Chair of the Committee
Redistribution Committee for New South Wales
Level 1, Roden Cutler House
24 Campbell Street
Haymarket NSW 2000



001863

Dear Mr Campbell,

As President of the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies, I write to you to express our views at the proposed removal of a portion of Randwick from the Federal Electorate of Wentworth.

The NSW Jewish Board of Deputies is the elected peak body of the Jewish Community in NSW. We are recognised and acknowledged by the NSW State Government, its agencies, the media and other ethnic and religious groups as the representative body of the Jewish Community and we speak on its behalf on all matters affecting the status, welfare and interest of NSW Jewry.

I urge you to reconsider the draft redistribution and retain that part of Randwick bounded by Alison Road within the Wentworth Electorate. There are some special reasons for this, pertaining to the Jewish community, which reasons I outline below.

Four of our major communal organisations, JewishCare, Sir Moses Montefiore Home for the Aged, Moriah College and the Emanuel School all of which either rely upon or are eligible to receive federal government funding, fall within this section of Randwick. We believe that these key Jewish institutions should remain in Wentworth not only to preserve the Electorate's unique Jewish character, but to maximise the effectiveness of the community's representations to government.

As stated, three of our key constituent organisations are the Emanuel School, Moriah College and the Sir Moses Montefiore Home for the Aged, which is scheduled to open in August 2006.

The new Sir Moses Montefiore Jewish Home for the Aged, is located on the corner of King and Dangar Streets in Randwick. This massive development on more than three hectares will be the jewel in the crown of Sydney Jewry and the finest facility of its kind in the Jewish world when it opens next month. The site will initially provide accommodation for more than 270 residents with provision to grow to over 400. It is also noteworthy that most residents of the Home previously lived in Wentworth. The site will also house an aged day care centre, which is a joint venture of JewishCare and the Sir Moses Montefiore Home.

Constituents: Access Ezer-Urim • Association of Jewish Engineers • Australasian Jewish Medical Federation (NSW) • Australasian Union of Jewish Students (AUJS) • Australian Association of Jewish Holocaust Survivors & Descendants • Australian Friends of Tel Aviv University (NSW) • The Australian Jewish Genealogical Society • Australian Jewish Historical Society • B'nai B'rith Council of NSW • Bondi Mizrahi Synagogue • The Central Coast Shalom Progressive Jewish Congregation • The Central Synagogue • Child Survivors of the Holocaust Group (Sydney) • Coogee Synagogue • Cremorne & District Hebrew Congregation • Eastern Jewish Association • Emanuel School • Friends of Bar Ilan University (NSW) • Friends of Magen David Adom (NSW) • Friends of Zahal Disabled Veterans Organisation - Beit Halochem • The Great Synagogue • Jewish Arts & Culture Council (JACC) • JewishCare • Jewish Centre on Ageing (COA) • Jewish Folk Centre • Joint Committee for Jewish Higher Education • Kehillat Masada Synagogue • Kesser Torah College • Mandelbaum House • Maroubra Synagogue • Masada College • Moriah College • Mount Sinai College • National Council of Jewish Women of Australia NSW • Newcastle Hebrew Congregation • Newtown Synagogue • North Shore Synagogue • North Shore Temple Emanuel • NSW Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen & Women • NSW Association of Sephardim • NSW Board of Jewish Education-Academy BJE • NSW Board of Progressive Jewish Education • NSW Friends of the Hebrew University • NSW Jewish War Memorial Community Centre • NSW Maccabi • NSW Society of Jewish Jurists & Lawyers • Parramatta & District Synagogue • The Shalom Institute • Sir Moses Montefiore Jewish Home • South Head & District Synagogue • Southern Highlands Jewish Community • Southern Sydney Synagogue • State Zionist Council of NSW • Strathfield Hebrew Congregation • The Sydney Jewish Museum • Technion Society of Australia NSW • Temple Emanuel (The Congregation of Kehillat Emanuel) • The Jewish House • Women's International Zionist Organisation (WIZO) NSW • Wolper Jewish Hospital • WomanPower • Yad L'Yad

Much of Jewish Care's constituency also falls within the Wentworth electorate. If representation of the clients of JewishCare were separated from the representation of the organisation (and the remainder of the community), it would necessarily divide the responsibility between two local members where single representation of one constituency is simply more efficient and effective.

The Emanuel School, the second largest Jewish High School in NSW, is situated at 20 Stanley Street in Randwick and is renowned as one of the premier Jewish Schools in the world. It provides educational excellence for students from Pre-school to Year 12. It is a most successful College. In the same way that there needs to be identical representation for the clients and organisation in welfare, there needs to be such in the case of this school and its clients.

It is also beneficial in this case to have both Emanuel and Moriah College (the largest Jewish school in the Southern Hemisphere, which is situated in Wentworth) in the same electorate and subject to representation by the same person in Parliament. Further, the representation of Moriah would, itself, be split as part of its student body is co-located on the Montefiore site.

There is a significant benefit to our community in keeping Federal political representation of such key community institutions in one electorate. Apart from the capacity to ensure that the local member is more familiar with the full extent of the community, which is to her/his benefit, it is essential for the community, which is numerically small in an Australia wide context, to have its community concentrated in a way that ensures that interest in the particular concerns of the community is maximised and that cognisance is taken of the special needs of an otherwise overwhelmed minority. Such is the case in Melbourne Ports, the only other electorate with a large Jewish population, and should remain the situation in Wentworth.

In order to preserve the unique and special character of Wentworth's Jewish Community and for the other reasons referred to above, we encourage you to include the new Sir Moses Montefiore Home and JewishCare facilities, the Moriah pre-school and the Emanuel School, within the boundaries of the Wentworth Electorate and, therefore, not excise from Wentworth the area to which reference has been made.

Yours sincerely,



David D. Knoll
President, NSW Jewish Board of Deputies