



The Federal Redistribution 2006
QUEENSLAND



Comment Number Seven on Public Suggestions

Hon Peter Slipper MP

2 pages

61 7 54437270



Federal Member for Fisher

COMMENT



The Secretary
Redistribution Committee for Queensland
Australian Electoral Commission
GPO Box 2590
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to comment upon public submissions for the redistribution of federal electoral boundaries in Queensland, particularly those for the Sunshine Coast region.


The Liberal Party submission is logical in that all of Maroochydhore once again is returned to Fisher, which would include all of Maroochy Shire with the exception of that part north of the Maroochy River (which relates to Noosa) required by Fairfax to attain a quota.

This is consistent with the submission by Fiona Simpson MP, Member for Maroochydhore, who supports the return of that part of Maroochydhore currently not in Fisher to this seat. As Ms Simpson points out,

"...for the Maroochydhore residents residing in the Fairfax electorate, they have to drive to Coolumb to access their Federal MP's office (maybe 20 - 30 minutes drive) when there is another Federal MP's office only three minutes walk away."

The Liberal Party submission for Fisher largely includes Kawana Waters, an area where residents often identify more with the regional centre of Maroochydhore/Mooloolaba than with central Caloundra itself.

The Liberal Party proposal to return all of Nambour, Montville, Woombye and Palmwoods to Fisher similarly is wise as these hinterland areas share a community of interest. Maleny's retention in Fisher also makes sense, as that town has much in common with other Blackall Range communities proposed for Fisher.



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**The Hon Peter Slipper MP**

Federal Member for Fisheries

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The suggested return of Gympie to Fairfax has logic as Fairfax once again would include Gympie, Noosa Shire and some voters from northern Maroochy Shire who often identify with Noosa (this was the case also on 1998 boundaries).

The proposal to separate the two growth centres of the Maroochydoore/Mooloolaba region and central Caloundra into separate divisions makes sense given future growth and redistributions, as does the inclusion of a country tail onto the Caloundra-based seat. A similar approach had been taken in the past, including 1993 and 1996.

The proposed inclusion of the railway towns of Beerwah, Glasshouse, Landsborough and Beerburrum in the Caloundra-based seat is appropriate as these areas of Caloundra City strongly identify with the City of Caloundra. To include them in the Caboolture-based seat as at present is not logical.

The ALP submission with their proposed placement of their new seat is not appropriate as very substantial boundary changes would be required throughout the state causing huge disruption.

I thank the Australian Electoral Commission for this opportunity to express my views on public submissions lodged.

Yours sincerely

PETER SLIPPER MP

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