



The Federal Redistribution 2006
QUEENSLAND



Objection Number 179

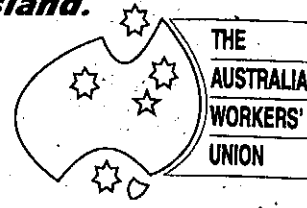
**The Australian Worker's Union
Queensland Branch**

2 pages



**The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland.
The Australian Workers' Union, Queensland Branch.**

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Address all correspondence to the Secretary

21 July, 2006

Mr Ian Campbell
Electoral Commissioner and Chair of the Redistribution Committee for Queensland
Redistribution Committee for Queensland
Australian Electoral Commission
488 Queen Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Sir

Please find attached an objection lodged on behalf of The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland, in relation to the announcement of the naming of the new federal division of "Wright" as part of the proposed State's federal electoral redistribution.

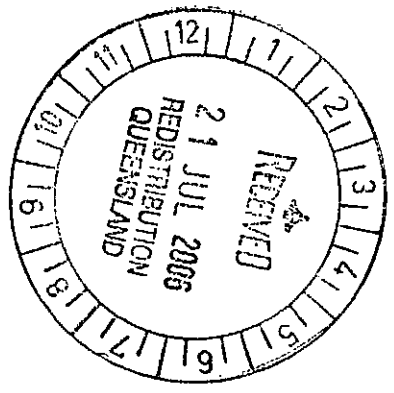
The AWU's objection is directed solely in relation to the naming of the federal division for the reasons explained in the attached document.

Yours sincerely

WP Ludwig OAM
SECRETARY

OBJECTION

№ 179



AWU OBJECTION TO THE NAMING OF NEW FEDERAL DIVISION

Scope of objection:

The Australian Workers' Union of Employees', Queensland, (AWUQ) joins with Evan Schwarten in objecting to the naming of the new federal division of "Wright". The AWUQ does not endorse a measure that would create confusion or embarrassment for the citizens of Mount Morgan, or sully the reputation of the late, well-respected poet Judith Wright. It should be noted that the late poet shares her surname with that of the disgraced former state and federal parliamentarian, whose jailing for child sex offences has been well documented. For this reason, the AWUQ deems the use of the name "Wright" completely inappropriate. This argument is strengthened by the fact that Judith Wright has no direct connection with the local area where the division of "Wright" is located. As the disgraced MP represented both the state and federal seats of Capricornia and Rockhampton South previously, it is likely that the name would be connected with him rather than the late Ms Wright. In the interests of the citizens of the new federal division and on a local level the AWUQ urges the AEC to consider this objection and the union's alternative suggestion for the division's name as explained below.

Proposal of the name Theodore:

The AWUQ also supports the original objection made by Evan Schwarten in proposing that the seat be named "Theodore" for the following reasons. E.G "Red Ted" Theodore had worked as a miner in Broken Hill before working as a union organiser where he founded the first branch of the Amalgamated Workers' Association (AWA) of North Queensland in 1907. The AWA soon spread throughout the north of the state before it later became the Queensland Branch of The Australian Workers' Union. Theodore then served as Queensland AWU president from 1913-1916.

Among his many career achievements was that of premier of Queensland, federal member for the seat of Dalley in 1927 and later as deputy prime minister and federal treasurer in the Scullin Government. With keen leadership and financial skills, "Red Ted" also had a successful career after politics where he became a successful businessman and a director of several companies such as Frank Packer's Consolidated Press (and was the co-creator of the *Australian Women's Weekly*). He later served both the Curtin and Chifley Government's as director-general of the Allied Work Council, (without salary), before his death in 1950.

E.G Theodore is a notable historical figure in the Australian political and cultural arena on many levels. His dedication to rural issues such as the sustainability of primary industries in Queensland, his forward-thinking approach to economic matters (it has been argued by some scholars that if his economic proposals had been adopted during the late 1920's the severity of the Great Depression could have been avoided) and his strong commitment to the interests of workers has proved his place as one of the great contributors to the social fabric of Australia.

E.G Theodore can also boast a strong connection with the Rockhampton and Central Queensland area, owing to the town of Theodore falling within the new division. The town was named after Theodore in tribute to his dedication to the Dawson Valley irrigation scheme that led to the development of irrigated farming throughout Queensland.

OBJECTION

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