



The Federal Redistribution 2006
QUEENSLAND



Objection Number 183

Hon Gary Hardgrave MP

Member for Moreton

2 pages



Parliament of Australia
House of Representatives

G HARDGRAVE MP

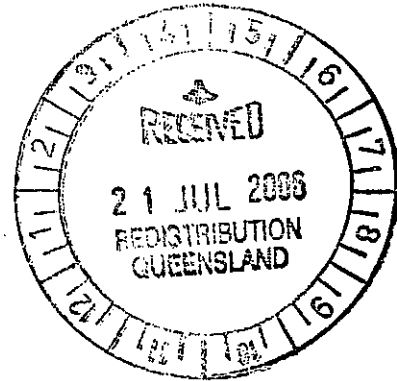
The Hon Gary Hardgrave MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MORETON



21 July 2006

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



Dear Committee Members

RE MORETON ELECTORAL BOUNDARY REDISTRIBUTION

Following the release of the draft plan for the redistribution of federal seats in Queensland, I feel it is important I raise two equally concerning issues with you, one concerning the proposed boundary with electoral division of Moreton and the proposed boundary with the electoral division of Griffith and one concerning the proposed boundary with the division of Oxley.

I find the Committee's decisions in some areas in my local area to be perplexing. While the opportunity existed for the committee to reunite some suburbs which have been previously split in past redistributions, it seemed blind to some obvious changes which would lead to easily understandable boundaries at a local level. This is particularly true in the north of the Moreton electorate.

The existing boundary with Griffith has created enormous local confusion. There are small pockets of two suburbs left straddling the 2004 boundary rather than whole suburbs being within each electorate. This is a perfect time to redress this situation.

I would strongly suggest that instead of moving the electors voters of Fairfield back into Moreton, it would be more beneficial to move the remnant voters of Tarragindi (1647), the areas called Wellers Hill and Ekibin, into Moreton with the other 5077 voters of Tarragindi. The Committee could look at a broader scheme of reuniting dislocated voters in areas like Holland Park West and Mt Gravatt East on the borders of Griffith and Bonner. This could put 2738 voters out of Griffith into Bonner. Combined with the rationalisation in Tarragindi, this is a total of 4385 voters out of Griffith. This could be offset by reuniting the Clifton Hill section of Annerley (970) with the majority of Annerley in Griffith (5508). There is no need to move additional Annerley voters into Moreton. This is more than required to meet the Committee's

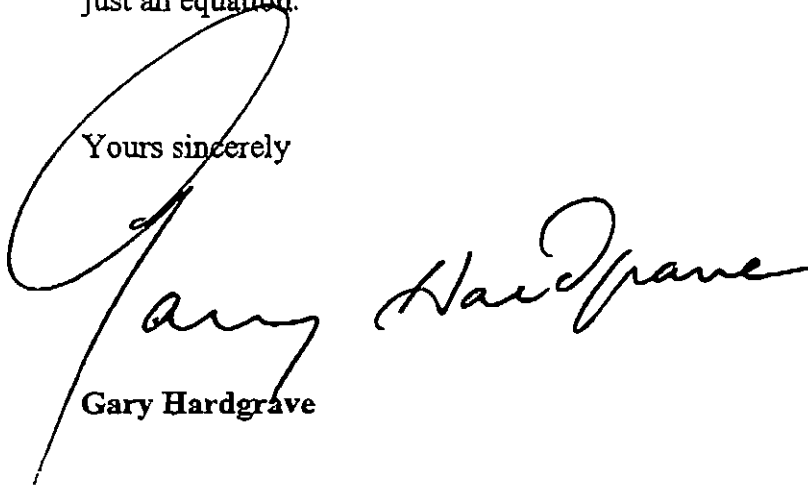
demands regarding enrolment numbers in Griffith. All up this would give Griffith an enrolment of 90 353, well within the tolerances outlined in the Act.

The second problem I wish to draw to your attention is the suburbs of Algester, Calamvale and Parkinson. A simple examination of the area in a street directory will show the location of schools, shopping centres, churches and community groups. There is a high level of community cohesiveness between the suburbs to be moved and the suburbs of Stretton, Sunnybank Hills and Sunnybank. While I note the superior position of numbers of electors in the Act, the Committee must also consider communities of interest, physical features, means of transport and communication. My proposal to maintain the boundary of Moreton and Oxley to the interstate railway actually maintains communities of interest within areas in easy reach of each other.

Put frankly, the people in Algester, Calamvale and Parkinson have nothing in common with the people of Inala and Ipswich and it is an injustice these people are being reduced to just numbers by this Committee. I have received many calls to my office about this and my constituents are very upset with the Committee's proposal.

In closing let me ask the Committee to consider the opportunity it has to make better boundaries for the people of my local area. It needs to make boundaries that are understandable to the people who live in the area and not ones that simply suit a predetermined number. Please give careful consideration to the community and not just an equation.

Yours sincerely



Gary Hardgrave

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OBJECTION

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