

# **PUBLIC SUGGESTION**

The Federal Redistribution 2009  
NSW



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**Public Suggestion Number 118**

**by**

**Mrs Lyn Sparks**

**2 Pages**

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*I write to voice my opinion about the unfair the present system of distributing electoral boundaries. It all sounds good on paper. But it is time for a geographical limitation on the size of rural electorates. I have done this in a complete hurry.*

*Just a few things need consideration –*

- 1) Members of Parliament in geographically huge electorates spend a lot of time of the road.*
- 2) This takes MPs away from their work while they drive those distances.*
- 3) Rural constituents do not have easy access to their MPs and are divided by the huge distances and the costs of phone calls*
- 4) Staffing components in city and rural offices remain the same*
- 5) You can do a run across three or more city electorates on a morning jog.*
- 6) Constituents can take a bus or walk to a MPs office*
- 7) Rural MPs simply cannot attend functions because of distances*
- 8) There are dangers in rural travel, fatigue, kangaroos, gravel roads, lack of lighting*
- 9) One city MP has 7 schools to represent, this electorate (although it is a State electorate has 61 public schools) - try attending those speech nights.*
- 10) I have not counted the private schools*
- 11) Our electorate has nine different local government areas.*
- 12) There is no public transport.*
- 13) Our phone bills are high*
- 14) Our transport and freight costs are high*
- 15) Our postage costs are high*
- 16) We have nine different newspapers, several TV and radio stations*

*The above relates to a State electorate, Federal electorate figures would be worse but I have provided these as an example. This is such an unfair system. The electorate gets bigger, the MP is forced to spend more and more time on the road to meet his constituents and therefore the actual quality and quantity of representation that is able to be offered lessens.*

*If you would consider the above, if it is within your guidelines your consideration would be very much appreciated. I have been an electorate officer for more than 25 years and know the problems. Please consider if it is possible.*

*Yours sincerely,  
Mrs Lyn Sparks*