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Redistribution of Federal Electoral Divisions in Tasmania

Submission From Ken Hart, 2 December 2016

Introduction

This submission concerns the proposed boundaries of electoral divisions. It recommends changes in accordance with the factors listed on the AEC website to be considered in the redistribution and aims to improve:

- The similarity of the number of electors in each division
- The ease of access to all parts of the divisions and reduce the travel times to different parts of the divisions
- The improve the consistency of economic, social and regional interests within each division

Concerns to be addressed

The specific concerns this submission aims to address are:

- 1. Bass, Braddon and Denison have significantly fewer electors than Franklin and Lyons.
- 2. Lyons division is very geographically large and diverse economically and socially. It is mostly regional but its most populous centre is Sorell, a dormitory suburb of Hobart that bears little relation to the rest of the suburb.
- 3. The Franklin contains two very separate areas separated by water and it requires going out of the division to pass between them by bridge. The two areas are the eastern shore suburbs of Hobart on one side of the river and the Huon and Channel on the other.

Proposed Redistribution

This Submission provides two alternative proposals. The first addresses the first two concerns above but does not address the third while the second addresses all three issues but requires much more substantial change to existing boundaries.

The proposals are described in terms of polling booths that are changed by the divisional boundary moves. The number of electors affected by the change is estimated by the

proportion of electors in the division who used that polling booth in the last federal election. It is extremely difficult to use earlier elections because many polling booths were removed and some new ones were added before the last election.

This process gives only a rough estimate of the effect on Division size and only enables broad brush changes as whole polling booths are reassigned. It is anticipated that the EAC will be able to make finer adjustments to these options by using ABS statistical areas to make the Divisions even more equal in number of electors (allowing also for projected relative increases in the future).

This submission includes the following attachments:

- Attachment 1 Option 1 Booths Moved
- Attachment 2 Option 2 Booths Moved
- Attachment 3 Divisional Electors Predicted
- Attachment 4 Option 1 Map of Changed Divisions
- Attachment 5 Option 2 Map of Proposed Divisions

Option 1

To increase the size of Braddon and reduce the geographical range of Lyons can be accomplished by expanding Braddon to take areas currently in Lyons. Polling booths should be moved either at the north or south end of the electorate. Moving at both ends is theoretically possible but would create more disruption and provide less benefit to Lyons. It is proposed that booths be moved into Braddon at the south end rather than the north because the areas have more in common with the rest of Braddon than Lyons and moving booths at the North of the state would not significantly reduce the overall physical size or diversity of Lyons. The alternative would be to more some of the booths in the Latrobe local government are into Braddon but the northern part of Lyons is it's most cohesive part and splitting some of it off into Braddon would leave the remaining parts of northern Lyons even more fragmented. Moving all the Latrobe polling booths into Braddon would make Braddon too large.

Hence it is proposed to move the southern areas around the booths: Ouse, Bothwell, Glenara and Westaway. These areas are gateways to the wilderness areas of Tasmania as is most of the rest of Braddon so this move consolidates these areas into Braddon while leaving the rural areas of Lyons being more agriculturally focused. The physical size of Lyons would be significantly reduced as the areas to be moved are physically large and sparsely populated but are readily accessible for other areas of Braddon...

Also to assist with the reduction in physical spread of Lyons is the proposed move of the most North eastern parts of Lyons to Bass. This removes one of the extremities of Lyons and puts them together with the rest of the north east in Bass. This will increase the number of electors in Bass as required. Another extremity of Lyons is the Western shore of the Tamar so it is proposed to consolidate the whole of the Tamar valley into Bass as

both sides share characteristics and the bridge between makes them accessible to each other. By contrast, there is no easy access from the North Tamar Valley across to areas around Latrobe as a mountain range separates them. Hence, moving the northern Tamar valley out of Lyons will not make the Latrobe area any more isolated in Lyons.

The two additions proposed for Bass will increase its size too much so it is proposed that some areas at the south of Bass are moved into Lyons to balance the other changes. These areas are the southern outskirts of Launceston which service and support the rural areas around them and hence have an affinity with them. These are moderately high density areas so they will not add significantly to the travel requirements of Lyons.

The changes so far described leave Lyons too small Lyons so it is proposed to move areas at the eastern outskirts of Hobart around Sorell into Lyons from Franklin to balance its size and create a cohesive area around Sorell in Lyons. These areas have a relatively high population density so there is little increase in the spread of Lyons. Having urban fringes of both Hobart and Launceston in Lyons gives an additional source of commonality.

Finally, the size of Denison is increased by moving some of the Channel into it from Franklin but to create more cohesion for both Franklin and Denison, a whole area around Kingston is moved into Denison while the most northern suburbs of Hobart are moved into Franklin.

Option 2

Option 1 solves the first two listed problems but does not address the third. The only ways to get from the Huon and Channel in the southern part of Franklin to rest of the division on the eastern shore of the Derwent is through the centre of Hobart or by private boat. Hence, the only feasible solution to concern 3 is to expand Denison to cover the Huon and Channel. Franklin can then take some of the northern suburbs of Hobart to compensate and the size of the electorates can be equalised.

This option proposes the same change to Braddon as option 1, that is, moving Ouse, Bothwell, Glenara and Westaway booth areas into Braddon from Lyons.

As an alternative to the booth exchanges between Lyons and Bass described in option 1, in this option the whole North-Western part of Lyons, including all the Latrobe and Meander Valley areas are moved into bass in exchange for the North-East local Government areas of Dorset and Break O'Day. While this increases the physical size of Lyons it improves the cohesiveness of the electorate as it takes in the full East coast and North-East. Bass also becomes more cohesive as it joins Launceston with the Tamar valley and land to the west.

The resulting divisions are much more recognisable as geographic units that the current divisions: Denison is Hobart, Huon and Channel, Franklin is mostly Glenorchy and

Clarence, Lyons is Midlands, East Coast and North East, Bass is the central north - Launceston, Tamar valley Latrobe and Meander Valleys and Braddon is the West.

Conclusion

Either of these options can be used to make Division sizes more equal as well as improving the social and economic cohesiveness and ease of access of the Divisions. Option 2 is resommended as it is a better long term solution as it resolves the current difficulty of Franklin being separated by Denison and the Derwent. However, option 2 is a much more significant change and it may not be considered feasible.

It is asked that these options be considered and one of them adopted.

Contact	Details	of	Proposer:

Ken Hart,

Attachment 1: Proposed Redistribution Option 1 Booths Changes

Booth	Current Electorate	Proposed Electorate	Formal Votes 2016 Federal Election
Hadspen	Bass	Lyons	1093
Prospect	Bass	Lyons	1966
Prospect Vale	Bass	Lyons	1217
Youngtown	Bass	Lyons	1574
Austins Ferry	Denison	Franklin	1608
Chigwell	Denison	Franklin	1272
Claremont	Denison	Franklin	2535
Roseneath	Denison	Franklin	761
Windermere	Denison	Franklin	1154
Kingston (Franklin)	Franklin	Denison	2234
Kingston Beach	Franklin	Denison	1657
Kingston PPVC	Franklin	Denison	1858
Sandfly (Franklin)	Franklin	Denison	828
Lauderdale	Franklin	Lyons	2152
Mornington	Franklin	Lyons	519
Sandford	Franklin	Lyons	1344
Seven Mile Beach	Franklin	Lyons	770
South Arm	Franklin	Lyons	621
Beaconsfield	Lyons	Bass	1061
Beauty Point	Lyons	Bass	596
Exeter	Lyons	Bass	1125
Gravelly Beach	Lyons	Bass	484
Kelso	Lyons	Bass	210
Legana (Lyons)	Lyons	Bass	855
Moriarty	Lyons	Bass	255
Port Sorell	Lyons	Bass	2215
Scamander	Lyons	Bass	417
Sidmouth	Lyons	Bass	452
Wesley Vale	Lyons	Bass	214

Attachment 1: Proposed Redistribution Option 1 Booths Changes

Booth	Current Electorate	Proposed Electorate	Formal Votes 2016 Federal Election
Bothwell	Lyons	Braddon	346
Glenora	Lyons	Braddon	310
Ouse	Lyons	Braddon	320
Westerway	Lyons	Braddon	356
Brighton	Lyons	Franklin	2018
Gagebrook	Lyons	Franklin	891
Granton	Lyons	Franklin	623

Attachment 2 Redistribution Option 2 Booths Changes

Booth	Current Electorate	Proposed Electorate	Formal Votes 2016 Federal Election
Branxholm	Bass	Lyons	199
Bridport	Bass	Lyons	980
Derby	Bass	Lyons	114
Gladstone	Bass	Lyons	147
Lady Barron	Bass	Lyons	125
Lebrina	Bass	Lyons	234
Lilydale	Bass	Lyons	710
Nunamara	Bass	Lyons	329
Pipers River	Bass	Lyons	223
Ringarooma	Bass	Lyons	326
Scottsdale	Bass	Lyons	1616
Weymouth	Bass	Lyons	129
Whitemark	Bass	Lyons	337
Winnaleah	Bass	Lyons	181
Austins Ferry	Denison	Franklin	1608
Chigwell	Denison	Franklin	1272
Claremont	Denison	Franklin	2535
Collinsvale	Denison	Franklin	359
Glenorchy	Denison	Franklin	3182
Glenorchy Central	Denison	Franklin	1482
Glenorchy PPVC	Denison	Franklin	3263
Goodwood	Denison	Franklin	554
Lutana	Denison	Franklin	945
Merton	Denison	Franklin	1613
Moonah	Denison	Franklin	1763
Moonah East	Denison	Franklin	1340
Moonah North	Denison	Franklin	1486
Roseneath	Denison	Franklin	761
Windermere	Denison	Franklin	1154
Adventure Bay	Franklin	Denison	159
Alonnah	Franklin	Denison	251
Blackmans Bay	Franklin	Denison	3048
Cradoc	Franklin	Denison	555
Cygnet	Franklin	Denison	1635
Dover	Franklin	Denison	615
Franklin	Franklin	Denison	605
Geeveston	Franklin	Denison	907
Glen Huon	Franklin	Denison	302

Attachment 2 Redistribution Option 2 Booths Changes

			Formal Votes
Booth	Current Electorate	Proposed Electorate	2016 Federal Election
Howden	Franklin	Denison	445
Huonville	Franklin	Denison	1415
Judbury	Franklin	Denison	246
Kettering	Franklin	Denison	525
Kingston (Franklin)	Franklin	Denison	2234
Kingston Beach	Franklin	Denison	1657
Kingston PPVC	Franklin	Denison	1858
Maranoa Heights	Franklin	Denison	1785
Margate	Franklin	Denison	1990
Middleton	Franklin	Denison	293
Mountain River	Franklin	Denison	596
Ranelagh	Franklin	Denison	995
Sandfly (Franklin)	Franklin	Denison	828
Snug	Franklin	Denison	1116
Southport	Franklin	Denison	106
Surges Bay	Franklin	Denison	169
Woodbridge	Franklin	Denison	429
Richmond	Franklin	Lyons	953
Beaconsfield	Lyons	Bass	1061
Beauty Point	Lyons	Bass	596
Exeter	Lyons	Bass	1125
Gravelly Beach	Lyons	Bass	484
Kelso	Lyons	Bass	210
Lower Barrington	Lyons	Bass	574
Moriarty	Lyons	Bass	255
Port Sorell	Lyons	Bass	2215
Sassafras	Lyons	Bass	216
Sidmouth	Lyons	Bass	452
Wesley Vale	Lyons	Bass	214
Bothwell	Lyons	Braddon	346
Glenora	Lyons	Braddon	310
Ouse	Lyons	Braddon	320
Westerway	Lyons	Braddon	356

Attachment 3 Predicted Electors in each Division for Both Options

Option	electorate	Electors Now	Variation from mean Now	Predicted Electors	Projected Variation From Mean
	Bass	73632	-1547	76243	1064
	Braddon	73208	-1971	74914	-265
1	Denison	73993	-1186	72995	-2184
	Franklin	77058	1879	75595	416
	Lyons	77181	2002	75086	-93
	Bass	73632	-1547	75881	702
2	Braddon	73208	-1971	74914	-265
	Denison	73993	-1186	75912	733
	Franklin	77058	1879	73926	-1253
	Lyons	77181	2002	74189	-990



