



The Federal Redistribution 2011
South Australia



Public Suggestion Number 1

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8 pages

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The Redistribution Committee for South Australia

Dear Members,

Redistribution of Federal Electoral Boundaries in South Australia

I have a whole of state redistribution proposal for South Australia. The population differences between the 11 existing divisions are not significantly out of kilter with the current average enrolment and tolerances. Comparatively minor changes I suggest are necessary to bring all the divisions within tolerance in 2015.

The nature of the changes I have proposed are consistent with economics, social and regional community of interests; communications and travel within the divisions; physical features and existing boundaries.

I have provided comments in relation to each division and have compiled the changes into a table which demonstrates they are all well within tolerances in 2015.

Grey

The existing division is slightly below average enrolment at 100,095 electors. It is growing at nearly the state average electors growth over the next four years (4.02% versus 4.09%). I have proposed no change to the boundaries and the projected enrolments for 2015 will remain at 104,118 or 99.39% of projected average enrolment at that time.

Both adjoining divisions of Wakefield and Barker are above quota and any changes to their boundaries can be applied to remedy elector shortfalls in other divisions.

Barker

The existing division is well above quota and its growth rate is also above the state-wide average (4.41% versus 4.09%), and shedding several thousand electors to Wakefield between Gawler and the Barossa, the principal localities are Lyndoch and Sandy Creek. Without changes Barkers enrolment would be 109,861 or 1,443 in excess of the upper tolerance in 2015.

I had considered other changes to transfer electors to reduce Barkers' enrolment but they would most easily results in transfers to Mayo such as Jervois, Wellington and Woods Point.

The transfer of electors around Lyndoch and Sandy Creek would result in Barker's enrolment being reduced to 103,186 with a projected enrolment of 107,773 or 102.88% of quota.

Hindmarsh

The current boundaries of Hindmarsh combined with its very low population growth (0.48% versus the state average of 4.09%) would see Hindmarsh fall below the minimum tolerance in 2015 by some 500 electors. In order to increase elector numbers I have proposed two sources of electors from Port Adelaide and Boothby.

Port Adelaide - Seaton (the area bounded by Frederick Road, West Lakes Boulevard, Tapleys Hill Road, and Grange Road) be transferred from Port Adelaide, some 3,951 (4,051) electors. This addition is areas of similar socio economic character, and bounded by well defined man made features and immediately adjacent to Hindmarsh.

Boothby – Edwardstown and Ascot Park South (the area between the Adelaide Noarlunga railway line, South Road and Daws Road) be transferred from Boothby, some 2,210 (2,210) electors. This addition is areas of similar socio, economic character, and bounded by well defined man made features, and returns the boundary to that which applied to Hindmarsh until a recent redistribution.

The effect of these additions would be to increase Hindmarsh's enrolment to 106,236 (106,815) electors or 101.97% of quota in 2015. These changes have a minor impact on both Port Adelaide and Boothby, and mean minimal disruption to other divisions.

Makin

The existing division of Makin has the lowest enrolment of any South Australian division and whilst it is growing it is at a rate less than the state average, 3.88% versus 4.09%. Without additional electors Makin will be below the permissible tolerance in 2015 by some 2,000 electors.

I propose a comparatively simple transfer from Port Adelaide of Mawson Lakes, Salisbury South, Parafield, and parts of Pooraka and Cavan, bounded by the Adelaide Gawler railway line, Frost Road, Main North Road and Port Wakefield Road. The transfer of some 4,455 electors will increase Makin's enrolment to 100,659 (104,589) or 99.84% of quota. The use of the railway line will mean that the boundary of Makin will shift to the west of where it currently is and that for Port Adelaide its boundary will follow this boundary for most of its eastern boundary.

The socio economic impact of the transfer on Makin is sounder than that with Mawson Lakes currently sited in Port Adelaide, a generally lower socio economic division. Other sources of additional electors for Makin also create complexities requiring further movements in other divisions. Accordingly this one simple well defined transfer is preferable.

Port Adelaide

As detailed in the description of Hindmarsh and Makin above, I have proposed several transfers of electors from Port Adelaide which have the effect of reducing Port Adelaide well below quota. In Makin I proposed the use of the Adelaide Gawler railway line as a significant defining easterly boundary. Given the current above quota and high growth in Wakefield, I would propose that the use of the Adelaide-Port Augusta railway line as the new boundary between Port Adelaide and Wakefield. This boundary has been used in the past and clearly delineated the boundary between Port Adelaide and the now abolished division of Bonython.

The transfer of electors south of the Adelaide-Port Augusta railway line results in the transfer of some 6,681 electors encompassing Paralowie, Salisbury North, Direk and Burton from Wakefield to Port Adelaide and in order to provide a more cut delineation between the urban and rural areas of the northern plains I propose that those electors in the City of Playford (738 electors) be transferred from Port Adelaide to Wakefield. This has the effect of making Port Adelaide more compact. The use of the railway and the council boundary between the City of Salisbury and Playford results in a noticeable split between the urban areas and the rural fringe.

The overall effect of these changes is to reduce the enrolment of Port Adelaide to 102,152 from 104,614 and to 106,739 from 109,501 in 2015. Port Adelaide will come within tolerance at 101.9% of quota.

Wakefield

The existing division is slightly above quota, and with its above average growth of 6.45% versus the state wide average of 4.09% will just be below the upper tolerance in 2015. I have proposed several changes to accommodate the surplus electors of Barker, in the area between Gawler and the Barossa Valley. This involves the principal localities are Lyndoch and Sandy Creek and 2,038 (2,088) electors. This area is part of the environs of Gawler and its inclusion is a reasonable solution to both divisions.

I have also proposed some adjustments with Port Adelaide which I have proposed shed electors to Hindmarsh, and also Makin. These are described below against the respective divisions. To reduce the enrolment of Wakefield and increase that of Port Adelaide, I have proposed that the boundary between the two divisions follow the Adelaide-Port August railway line, and also follow the local government boundary between the Cities of Playford and Salisbury. This change means that the more rural areas of Port Adelaide are transferred and the suburb of Paralowie not be split.

This railway boundary has been used in the past and clearly delineated the boundary between Port Adelaide and the now abolished division of Bonython.

The transfer of electors south of the Adelaide-Port Augusta railway line results in the transfer of some 6,681 electors encompassing Paralowie, Salisbury North, Direk and Burton from Wakefield to Port Adelaide and in order to provide a more cut delineation between the urban and rural areas of the northern plains I propose that those electors in the City of Playford (738 electors) be transferred from Port Adelaide

to Wakefield. The use of the railway and the council boundary between the Cities of Salisbury and Playford results in a noticeable split between the urban areas and the rural fringe.

The effect of these changes apart from a slight northward displacement of Wakefield is to reduce the enrolment of Wakefield to 96,842 or 103,386 in 2015 or 98.69% of quota.

Adelaide

The existing division is slightly below average enrolment at 98,397 electors. It is growing at slightly above the state average electors growth over the next four years (4.33% versus 4.09%). I have proposed no change to the boundaries and the projected enrolments for 2015 will remain at 102,662 or 98.0% of projected average enrolment at that time.

I considered other changes but on balance found that they would create cascading problems with other divisions and given the high growth rate in Adelaide over time Adelaide will grow closer to quota and the need for additional electors will lessen.

Sturt

Currently Sturt is the third smallest division in South Australia in terms of elector numbers. Without additional electors in 2015 it will without changes be barely within the lowest level of tolerance 101,161 versus a projected lower tolerance of average enrolment of 101,086.

The current boundaries of Sturt in the north of Grand Junction Road is a reasonable and significant man made boundary. The use of local government areas along the hills face has been in place for some years now. Adjustments with Adelaide would merely exacerbate electors shortfalls in Adelaide and not significantly change the situation in Sturt. I have proposed a small adjustment which transfers electors from Mayo to Sturt, which will address in part some of the absurdities of the use of local government boundaries at present. The suburbs of Woodforde and Teringie are currently within Mayo, but clearly part of the urban area of eastern Adelaide. For instance Rostrevor College is not within the suburb of Rostrevor, and part of Rostrevor, are actually within the Adelaide Hills Council. The transfer of these electors would mean about 905 electors would be transferred to Sturt. This would lift Sturt's enrolment to 99,802 (102,066) and 99.17% (97.44%) in 2011 and 2015 respectively.

The socio economic community of interest, together with the use of a major natural feature the Adelaide Hills, would make for a tidier and more logical boundary. From an electoral fairness point of view this addition of electors is comparatively easily made and is not disruptive to other divisions.

Kingston

The current boundaries of Kingston mean that Kingston is the third largest division in terms of elector numbers and is projected to be the largest division in 2015 with a growth rate of 7.15% versus the state average of 4.09%.

The northern boundaries of Kingston run along the top of an escarpment and main road which are fairly clear cut boundaries. Options such as moving Hallett Cove into Boothby are options but not as ideal or as well defined as the current boundary. I have proposed that the southern boundaries of Kingston be adjusted to a form that existed prior to 2003, when the southern vales were in Mayo, with Kingston being a narrow coastal strip of suburbs. I proposed that south of the Onkaparinga River that Kingston boundary follow the Main South Road to where it intersects with the Willunga Escarpment. The transfer of McLaren Flat, McLaren Vale, Old Noarlunga, Willunga, those parts of Seaford east of the Main South Road, Tatachilla, Whites Valley, Sellicks Hill, part of Aldinga (east of the Main South Road) will mean that about 8,223 (8,623) electors would be transferred to Mayo.

The result of this transfer accommodates transfers with Boothby from Mayo. The transfer proposed means that semi rural and rural areas join like areas in Mayo, and Kingston's new enrolment would be 94,528 in 2011, and 101,470 in 2015, or 96.78% of quota. Given the growth in Kingston this level of enrolment will mean that Kingston will not approach the state wide average enrolment till near the expiry of this redistribution period.

Mayo

The current division of Mayo is lies above the average enrolment and below the allowable upper tolerance in 2015. Its growth rate is higher than the state average of 4.8% versus 4.09%. The division adjoining Mayo of Barker, Wakefield, Kingston, are above quota, and Sturt and Makin below quota. Given that construct I have proposed in Kingston's description above the transfer of the southern vales from Kingston to Mayo will mean that about 8,223 (8,623) electors would be transferred to Mayo.

The existing division of Boothby is below quota and apart from a minor transfer to Hindmarsh, which makes a tidier boundary of Boothby along South Road and Daws Road, I proposed that further areas of the City of Onkaparinga be transferred from Mayo to Boothby. These areas have previously being in Boothby namely Aberfoyle Park, and portions of Coromandel Valley. I propose that the boundary of Boothby run south along Main Road and to the west along Windebanks Road to Happy Valley Drive. This would involve a transfer of 9,525 (9,725) electors from Mayo to Boothby.

I have described a small transfer to Sturt above. I have proposed a small adjustment which transfers electors from Mayo to Sturt, which will address in part some of the absurdities of the use of local government boundaries at present. The suburbs of Woodforde and Teringie are currently within Mayo, but clearly part of the urban area of eastern Adelaide. For instance Rostrevor College is not within the suburb of Rostrevor, and part of Rostrevor, are actually within the Adelaide Hills Council. The transfer of these electors would mean about 905 electors would be transferred to Sturt.

Overall the effect of these exchanges with Sturt, Boothby, and Kingston will mean that the enrolment of Mayo will be 99,961 and 105, 067 in 2015, or 100.30% of quota.

Boothby

Boothby is the second smallest division in elector numbers and is growing at barely half the state wide average of 2.29% versus 4.09% state-wide. I have proposed transfers in two areas, one a small one to bring Hindmarsh into quota and return the boundaries of Boothby to a former boundary of South Road and Daws Road. This small transfer does add to the problem of Boothby's under quota situation but not significantly. (The transfer of Edwardstown and Ascot Park South (the area between the Adelaide Noarlunga railway line, South Road and Daws Road) be transferred from Boothby, some 2,210 (2,210) electors. This addition is areas of similar socio, economic character, and bounded by well defined man made features, and returns the boundary to that which applied to Hindmarsh until a recent redistribution.)

The division of Adelaide is slightly below quota, whilst Kingston is above quota but its boundary is a well defined major road (Majors Road) and an escarpment. The division of Sturt is also below quota. The division of Mayo as described above is adjacent to Boothby, and existing suburbs within the City of Onkaparinga (and the former City of Happy Valley) are already in Boothby, and the addition of Aberfoyle Park, and portions of Coromandel Valley will provide sufficient electors in one adjustment to remedy the voter shortfall in Boothby. I propose that the boundary of Boothby run south along Main Road and to the west along Windebanks Road to Happy Valley Drive. This would involve a transfer of 9,525 (9,725) electors from Mayo to Boothby.)

The effect of these changes is to increase the enrolment of Boothby to 105,145 and 107,588 in 2015, or 102.71% of quota.

Summary

I have provided a spreadsheet (Attachment A) with the transfers involved from Division to Division, which summarises what has been said in the text above.

The overall proposals involve a transfer of only 3.5% of all South Australian electors or 38,726. This reflects the fact that all 11 divisions are not significantly at variance from quota and that my proposals minimise the movements of electors between divisions.

Martin Gordon
24 April 2011

Attachment A

Name	2011 enrolment		2015 projection
Adelaide	98397		102662
		No change	0
		98397	102662
Barker	105224		109861
		-2038 Lyndoch, Sandy Creek	-2088
		103186	107773
Boothby	97830		100073
from Mayo		9525 Aberfoyle Park, Coromandel Valley	9725
to Hindmarsh		-2210 Ascot Park South, Edwardstown	-2210
		105145	107588
Grey	100095		104118
		No change	
		100095	104118
Hindmarsh	100075		100554
From Boothby		2210 Ascot Park South, Edwardstown	2210
From Port Adelaide		3951 Seaton Park	4051
		106236	106815
Kingston	102750		110092
To Mayo		-8223 McLaren Flat, McLaren Vale, Willunga, Old Noarlunga, Seaford Meadows	-8623
		94527	101469
Makin	96204		99934
From Port Adelaide		4455 Mawson Lakes	4655
		100659	104589
Mayo	102168		107074
To Boothby		-9525 Aberfoyle Park	-9725
From Kingston		8223 McLaren Flat, McLaren Vale, Willunga, Old Noarlunga, Seaford Meadows	8623
To Sturt		-905 Magill, Woodforde, Teringie	-905
		99961	105067
Port Adelaide	104614		109501
To Hindmarsh		-3951 Seaton Park	-4051
To Makin		-4455 Mawson Lakes	-4655
From Wakefield		6681 Direk, Paralowie, Burton, Salisbury North	6681
To Wakefield		-738 Virginia (Port Adelaide)	-738
		102152	106739

Sturt	98897			101161
From Mayo		905	Magill, Woodforde, Teringie	905
		99802		102066
Wakefield	100747			107241
To Port Adelaide		-6681	Direk, Paralowie, Burton, Salisbury North	-6681
From Port Adelaide		738	Virginia (Port Adelaide)	738
From Barker		2038	Lyndoch, Sandy Creek	2088
		96842		103386