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Submission FOB191

Linda Luther

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FedRedistribution - TAS](#)
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Luther, Linda - Redistribution TAS - Submission on the proposed Tasmanian redistribution (feedback)

Personal details

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Submission on the proposed Tasmanian redistribution details

Category: Names
Details: My submission is below. I note that you do not ask for my address. I live in Bellerive, in the Franklin electorate, new and proposed. I hope that gives it more weight than those from outside the electorate.

Proposal to change the name of the Franklin Electorate

The proposal to change the name of the Franklin electorate is inappropriate. This is for historical reasons and also for practical purposes.

For historical reasons the Franklin name should be retained. AEC standard procedure is to preserve the names of seats that have existed since Federation.

Sir John Franklin made a positive contribution to the development of colonial Tasmania and should continue to be recognised by naming an electorate after him. To say that his name is being 'retired' is rather coy.

On the other hand, recognising Tongerlongeter is returning to the 'noble savage' historical view. I thought we had outgrown that. Tongerlongeter certainly fought hard for his countrymen as a leader of organised resistance. In doing this he killed many settlers including women and children. This murder is not the kind of thing we should be celebrating. If it were a settler who had done this then there is no way his name would be put up for recognition.

I note you refer to historians in your report. This would be some historians that you have chosen to consult. Not all would share their views on the past.

From the practical point of view, Tongerlongeter is a challenging name for the majority of Tasmanians to say and spell. Thank heaven for spell check, as I am having to fix the name every time I type it. It will get mis-spelt and mispronounced. It will get a nickname in the traditional Aussie fashion and no longer relate to the person being 'honoured'. It is important to consider that the name of an electorate is something that all people in the electorate should be familiar with and not be a challenging name to remember or pronounce.

In Parliament, members are referred to by their electorate. This will be a tongue-twister indeed and will result in mispronunciation and laughter in the House. Parliamentary procedures are often scoffed at, and this will only add to the poor public view of them.

We don't need more tokenism in recognition of Aboriginal people. We already have three flags and innumerable welcomes to country. We need to assist them with more practical things such as education and housing.

I urge you to retain the name Franklin for the electorate.

Linda Luther

Bellerive

20 July 2026