



Submission FOB248

Steve and Julie F

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

We wish to object to the proposed renaming of the Franklin electorate. We believe there are several reasons that this should not proceed:

1. The change in name demeans and diminishes the contribution of the Franklin family to Tasmania.
The Franklin family, both Sir and Lady Franklin, contributed significantly to the development of Tasmania. Their memory should not just be "extinguished".
2. Tongerlongeter was largely known for his guerilla tactics and resistance to the colonists, not for building Tasmania. Irrespective of whether he is considered a hero in some quarters, or a terrorist, he did not contribute to parliamentary democracy. Parliamentary democracy is one of the great legacies from the British (along with universal suffrage, public hospitals, public education, a justice system based on "innocent until proven guilty" etc etc) from which all Australians benefit. It is entirely inappropriate to remove the name of a significant colonial family and replace it with the name of someone who made no contribution to this institution. The motivation to do so is entirely political and ideological.
3. The justification that the name change is required due to 'significant changes that will be made to the electorate's boundaries' seems bogus, and patronizing to voters implying that they will somehow not understand the change in boundaries.
4. There has been inadequate publication of the proposed name change. For example, an ABC report on the impact of the redistribution merely flashed the new name briefly on the screen and otherwise did not mention it in a long report. This sort of thing suggests a change being "slipped in" without people noticing. This has meant reduced opportunity for feedback.
5. I do not believe there is a public appetite or desire for this change.

For the above reasons, we consider that the proposed name change should be dropped.

Thankyou

Steve and Julie F