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Submission S46

Stuart Ashdown

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FedRedistribution - QLD](#)
Subject: [Redistribution QLD - Submission] *WWW* [SEC=OFFICIAL]
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, Stuart Ashdown - Redistribution QLD - Submission

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Submission details

Submission: Names and Boundaries

Details: Submission to the Queensland
Redistribution Committee

Subject: Retention of existing division
names and minimal boundary change

To the Redistribution Committee,

I am a Queensland elector and I make
this submission on one point: please keep
the existing names of Queensland's
federal divisions, and keep boundary
changes to the minimum needed to meet
the enrolment requirements of the
Electoral Act.

Names. Division names are a point of

continuity between voters and their representatives. People know their electorate by name, and so do community groups, local businesses, councils and service providers. Changing a name without a compelling reason adds confusion, administrative cost and reprinting, and it rarely makes the electorate work any better. Many of Queensland's existing names also honour people and places that have long been part of our shared history. I ask the Committee to treat the current names as the default and to depart from them only where a name has become clearly inappropriate or misleading.

Boundaries. Where changes are needed to bring enrolments within tolerance, I ask the Committee to keep existing boundaries wherever it can. That means adjusting the edges of the affected divisions rather than redrawing the map, so that established communities of interest stay together and voters keep their existing connection to their local member. Stability helps people stay engaged with their representatives.

Conclusion. Redistributions should be about fair and equal representation, not about reopening questions that divide communities. I would rather see the process stay practical and low-key than become a forum for contested symbolism. I ask for existing names to be retained and boundary changes to be kept as small as the law allows.

Sincerelyincerely
