



THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
QUEENSLAND

Submission S54

Gretchen

Suggestion for Queensland federal redistribution

1. Started to demonstrate an understanding of legislative framework

Congratulations on reading the Commonwealth Electoral Act and referring to suggestions, comments on suggestions, objections and comments on objections. I have some confidence that you may do a reasonable job of this redistribution, unlike the recent redistributions of South Australia, Tasmania and the ACT. I encourage you to look at the redistributions conducted prior to these ones and use them as your examples, not the three I've referred to above and they look like the people working on them had very little idea of what they were doing.

2. Names to avoid

A recent state redistribution of Queensland has been completed, but unless there's an early state election the new districts won't be used until late October 2028.

The next House of Reps election is likely between July 2027 and July 2028 (although there is some speculation about lining up some double dissolution triggers in time for March next year), so likely to be before the next state election.

I therefore implore you to request the temptation to use any of the names that have been dropped by the state as you will only cause confusion amongst electors.

The names to be avoided are:

- Joseph Bancroft – doctor and scientist
- Maude 'Lores' Bonney – aviatrix and first person to fly solo from Australia to England
- Lillian Cooper – first woman doctor register in Queensland, and served in France and Macedonia during WW1
- Ellen Violet 'Vi' Jordan – musician and second woman to be elected to the Queensland Legislative Assembly, and the first woman from the ALP to win a seat. She is not appropriate to name a federal electorate after but is a state electorate.
- Arthur Macalister – active in the movement to separate Queensland in the 1800s from New South Wales, and Premier several times. He is not appropriate to name a federal electorate after but is a state electorate.
- Mary McConnel – campaigned for the opening of the first children's hospital in Queensland and the first public school in Queensland. It would be more fitting to name a state electorate after her rather than a federal electoral.
- Emma Miller – advocate for women's rights, including voting. Appropriate to name a state electorate after her but there are other people to name federal electorates after rather than a suffragette in each state.
- Oodegroo Noonuccal – poet and activist
- Edward Theodore – a parliamentarian. Not appropriate for a federal electorate as you should really have done more than been a member otherwise electorates will be

named after only politicians, and we can do better when it comes to naming electorates.

- Alfred Trager – builder of the pedal wireless
- Sir Francis Nicklin – former Premier. He is not appropriate to name a federal electorate after but is a state electorate.

3. Federal electorates to consider renaming

Interesting to see Queensland decide they want to move to geographic names for state districts.

There is a guideline to avoid locality or place names so maybe consideration should be given to getting rid of geographic names for federal electorates.

Geographic names can be replicated in state electorates, local government, wards and ridings and suburbs.

6 of the current Queensland electorates have geographic names – is there any good reason to keep them?

Brisbane – on balance, there is some sense in keeping electorates named for capital cities (shame the Tasmanian redistribution didn't make this change as there has never been an electorate of Hobart in the House of Reps)

Capricornia – the trop of Capricorn is a circle of latitude, at approximated 23.5 south of the Equator. Yes, this does pass through the electorate and while there is a sun dial in the electorate to commemorate it, it was moved to its current location in 1980. Looks like some shaky reasoning and it would be worth looking at this name again.

Maranoa – is a region name and a local government area name. Good reason to consider whether it's appropriate or not.

McPherson – actually a bit hard to work out where the range is in relation to the electorate. The fact that it's a geographic name supports the reasoning to reconsider, and if it's not in the middle of the electorate that's even more reason to do so.

Moreton – Should be reconsidered

Wide Bay – should be reconsidered as there are two Wide Bays in Queensland and it's not clear which was seen by Cook.

The fact that these names have been in use is no reason to keep the latter five names as surely the boundaries have changed and it is debateable whether the 1900 reasoning for the name still applies.

4. New names to consider

a) Mabo

To recognise Mrs Ernestine Bonita Mabo AO, an activist and reconciliation advocate.

Born: 1943, Ingham, Queensland, Australia

Died: 2018, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

- Advocate for Indigenous schooling and co-founder of Australia's first Indigenous community school, the Black Community School in Townsville, where she worked as a teacher's aide and oversaw the day-to-day operations, including providing continuity and cultural training to all children.
- An Australian South Sea Islander who spoke frequently about the need for Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and South Sea Islander peoples to "work together as one to fight for our rights". Worked to Australian South Sea Islanders to be recognised as a distinct ethnic group.
 - South Sea Islanders are Australian descendants of Pacific Islanders who were forced to work in substandard conditions in Queensland and northern NSW between 1863 and 1904.
 - Around 60,000 Pacific Islanders were brought to Australia, referred to as 'balckbirded' to work on sugar and cotton plantations, sheep and cattle farms, and in the pearling and fishing industries. Their recruitment often involved forced removal from their homes and long-term indentured service.
- Described as the mother of native title and one of the great First Nations Women of our time.
- Supported her husband, Edie, in his case which saw the High Court overturned the doctrine and recognised the existence of native title for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Served for 10 years on the Central Queensland Land Council.

This name fits the naming guidelines by:

- Naming after a deceased Australian who has rendered outstanding service to Australia
- Is not a geographic name
- Would be after an appropriate Aboriginal / Torres Strait Islander person
 - Australia – 25 of 150 (16.7%) electorates are named for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person or word
 - 3 of 30 Queensland electorates are named for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person or word
 - Australia - 9 of 150 (6.0%) electorates are named for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person
 - 2 of 30 Queensland electorates are named for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person

- Australia – 2 of 150 electorates are named for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander woman jointly for another person and 1 of 150 electorates are named for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander woman in their own right
 - No electorates in Queensland are named for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander woman

While not a guideline, this would increase the number of electorates named after women, of which there are only 25 of 150 (16.7%) in Australia and only 5 of 30 in Queensland.

Leichhardt should not be renamed to recognise Edie Mabo as there are so few electorates named to recognise scientists or non-English people who have contributed to Australia.

- Ludwig Leichhardt increased knowledge of Australia and he is remembered as one of the most authoritative early recorders of Australia's environment and the best trained natural scientist to explore Australia to that time

Consideration could usually be given to renaming 'Kennedy' or 'Herbert' to recognise Bonita Mabo. If you really must, you could make it a joint recognition of her husband as well, but Bonita Mabo is worthy in her own right.

b) Lyell

To recognise Lottie Lyell, Australia's first film star who was a stage and screen actress, screenwriter, editor and filmmaker.

Born: 1890, Balmain, New South Wales, Australia

Died: 1925, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

- Acknowledged as a pioneer of Australia's feature films film who was committed to developing films in Australia
- Australia's first female star and producer and widely acknowledged and admired as a film screenwriter, editor, art director, producer and director. She defined the roles of women in Australia's film industry in its very early years as not just acting but as writing, directing and producing, being a real trail blazer for many women up to and including today.
- Her films, made with Raymond Longford, won both critical and popular acclaim in an era when the combine's preference for importing cheaper films from the US and Europe threatened the Australian feature film industry
- a number of the screenplays attributed to Lottie Lyell challenged social conventions by presenting issues from a woman's point of view
- Lyell's dedication, talent and willingness to work outside of traditional women's roles contributed enormously to the flowering of cinema production in Australia at the beginning of the 20th century.

- Lived in Brisbane for several years before her early death from tuberculosis – strong connection to Queensland

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c) Kellerman

To recognise Annette Marie Sarah Kellerman, a pioneer of the women's one-piece swimming costume and fitness advocate.

Born: 1886, Darlinghurst, New South Wales, Australia

Died: 1935, Southport, Queensland, Australia

- Known as the 'Australian Mermaid' and the 'Diving Venus'
- One of Hollywood's first major silent film actresses and stunt women, Kellerman was the first Australian woman to star in a Hollywood movie, *Jephthah's Daughter*, in 1909
- Did much to make women's swimming popular and socially acceptable, holding all of the world records for ladies swimming in 1905
- Considered her greatest achievement to be her part in emancipating women from the Victorian neck-to-knee swimming costume through her creation of the women's one piece bathing suit
- In America in 1907, Annette attempted a long-distance swim wearing a tight-fitting boy's costume made of black wool, which covered her entire body but had short legs. She was arrested for 'indecent exposure'. With no money for a lawyer she was forced to defend herself and pointed out to the judge that swimming with sleeves and heavy bloomers was 'like swimming in a ball gown'. The judge was sympathetic and dismissed the case, helping to relax laws for women's swimwear.
- Moved to Queensland during the 1930s and during World War 2 worked in Queensland to assist Sister Elizabeth Kenny, worked for the Australian Red Cross and entertained troops – evidence of strong connection to Queensland

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