



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

Submission CS8

Rebekha Sharkie MP



Rebekha Sharkie MP

Federal Member for Mayo

PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA • HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Redistribution Committee for South Australia
Australian Electoral Commission
Locked Bag 4007, Canberra ACT 2601

To the Redistribution Committee for South Australia

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL REDISTRIBUTION

I write to comment on the suggestions made by several parties with regard to the South Australian federal redistribution.

It should be noted that the majority of submissions in relation to the division of Mayo share commonalities. There are repeated suggestions that the areas of Blackwood, Coromandel Valley, Craighburn Farm, and Hawthorndene be transferred to the divisions of Boothby and/or Kingston. Additionally, several others align with my suggestion that the Aldinga and Sellicks Beach area be returned to the division of Kingston.

There is only one prominent outlier suggestion, S14 from the SA Labor Party, which recommends moving Murray Bridge into Mayo. I strongly oppose this suggestion.

I offer comment on the following public submissions as they relate to the division of Mayo.

Submission S3 – Ben Last

Submission S3 suggests that Kersbrook, Gumeracha, Birdwood and Mount Torrens are moved from Mayo to the division of Barker. As this would divide the Adelaide Hills local government area (LGA), currently in its entirety within the division of Mayo, across both Mayo and Barker separating a strong community of interest, I am opposed to this suggestion. This submission also suggests that the remainder of the City of Mitcham local government area (LGA) be transferred to Boothby and Coromandel Valley be transferred to Kingston. Noting that stronger community connections exist between these areas and Boothby and Kingston respectively, I am not opposed to this suggestion.

Submission S4 Dr Mark Mulcair

This submission suggests all of Blackwood, Craighburn Farm, Hawthorndene and Coromandel Valley be transferred to the division of Boothby. I acknowledge that this community shares strong connections with the division of Boothby and I am not opposed to this suggestion. The suggested loss from Mayo to Barker of the areas of Kersbrook, Birdwood, Gumeracha and Houghton, would divide the Adelaide Hills LGA across the divisions of Mayo and Barker. The result would be the separation of an interconnected Adelaide Hills community losing the benefit of singular federal representation. I am opposed to this suggestion.

Submission S6 Darren McSweeney

This submission acknowledges the strong local government boundary between the divisions of Barker and Mayo and suggests that rather than breaking that clear boundary, the City of Mitcham LGA be transferred from Mayo to Boothby. In addition, this suggestion proposes aligning the strong communities of interest of Sellicks, Aldinga and Aldinga Beach by restoring this area to the division of Kingston. I support this suggestion. It retains the strongest communities of interest of the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island within Mayo, whilst acknowledging the stronger connections between Boothby and the City of Mitcham LGA and likewise the southern areas of Sellicks and Aldinga with Kingston.

Submission S14 – Australian Labor Party (South Australian Branch)

This submission suggests the inclusion of the City of Murray Bridge in the division of Mayo, in addition to Mount Barker, Victor Harbor and Aldinga. S14 asserts that a shared interest exists between these communities by nature of them being “high growth”.

This submission disregards the like communities throughout the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island. Despite Mount Barker being fast-growing, it is still considered a hills town. Conversely, Murray Bridge is a distinct river regional city unlike any other location in the Mayo division.

The growth of Mount Barker does not disconnect it from other hills townships. In fact, Mount Barker is at the heart of these communities delivering much needed services.

This submission is clearly political and displays an acute lack of understanding of the communities which form the heart of the Mayo division. The assertion that Nairne be separated from the adjoining townships of Littlehampton and Mount Barker and placed in another division is illogical, given the submission argues that other freeway adjoining communities such as Hahndorf, Crafers and Littlehampton should remain. The townships of Nairne, Woodside and Lobethal rely on Mount Barker as the major educational, employment, transport and social hub of the hills and the strong communities of interest between the Adelaide Hills and Mount Barker region cannot be understated. This is further supported by the existing state and local government boundaries.

This submission seeks to deny the regional identity and strong community foundations which exist in Mayo and fails to recognise the unique character of the region which attracts people to live in targeted growth areas such as Mount Barker and Victor Harbor. I oppose this suggestion.

Submission S16 Liberal Party of Australia (SA Division)

Like many other submissions, S16 suggests moving the entirety of the Mitcham LGA into the division of Boothby. I do not oppose this suggestion. The submission also seeks to unite the electorally divided community of Callington within one division, Barker. As Callington shares a strong community of interest with the adjoining rural community of Kanmantoo, the submission advocates for the township of Kanmantoo to also be included within the division of Barker. While I would be hesitant to support the removal of these two townships from the division of Mayo, I acknowledge the potential benefit to the Callington community of singular federal representation.

Submission S18 Anonymous 2

Submission S18 notes that the redistribution presents an opportunity to produce a better alignment with local government area boundaries. The submission advocates for the Adelaide Hills LGA to remain in its entirety in Mayo and that Mayo's enrolment surplus be addressed by transferring the balance of the Mitcham LGA to Boothby and the balance of the City of Onkaparinga local government area to Kingston. This suggestion recognises the strong community ties between these council areas and the corresponding divisions. I support this suggestion.

I thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Yours sincerely



REBEKHA SHARKIE MP
Federal Member for Mayo

21 November 2025