



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

Submission OB339

Anthony Honner



14 April 2026

The Federal Redistribution Committee for South Australia

Rename the Electorate of Grey

To Whom It May Concern:

My letter asks that you leave the Electorate of Grey as it is currently named because to change it to O'Donoghue would, I believe, defeat the purpose for which the anonymous letter writer proposes in honouring the great lady, Lowitja O'Donoghue.

Governor Grey, the third Governor of South Australia, 1841-1845, was appointed as a person with respect and knowledge of Indigenous people to quell the murders and warfare by gun and spear between early settlers, pastoralists and native tribes.

Like Lowitja, he didn't solve all the Aboriginal problems but he did mediate and moderate a savage chapter which occurred before his appointment in the first five years of South Australia being proclaimed a State. He introduced the Aboriginal Evidence Act in 1844, revised in 1848 to the Aboriginal Witness Act which existed until 1929. Also in 1844, he introduced the Aboriginal Orphan Act.

He inherited a bankrupt South Australia and soon had full employment and increased agricultural exports to make South Australia self-supporting and free of debt.

South Australia and the Aboriginals would have suffered enormously at that time if it were not for him so let the Electorate of Grey continue to bear his name.

In reality, in five years' time, 95% of people who live in the Electorate wouldn't know the significance of O'Donoghue or Grey so why spend heaps of money on changing the name when it would be better spent on the dire state of health equity and equality and

welfare in on-country Aboriginal communities. In fact, all regional and rural Australians are pleading for a better health service which is currently deplorable

In my first sentence, I mentioned that to change the Electorate from Grey to O'Donoghue would defeat the intent of the change.

In the recent South Australian election, the polls predicted One Nation would get a few less overall votes than Labor and many more than Liberal. The polls were correct. The two major parties went backwards and One Nation leapt forward. There is a very strong message that Labor and Liberal have lost touch with the voting public.

I did not vote for the One Nation candidate in my Narungga electorate in South Australia, formerly the electorate of Goyder (after Goyder's Line, synonymous with all country in South Australia).

Among First Nations few policies are:

National Unity

Fairness for ordinary Australian

One voice- one people- one Nation

Equality through assimilation

Oppose treaties, the Voice to Parliament and Native Title

Policies that differentiate based on race; arguing this fosters division rather than unity

Cultural Recognition: oppose the renaming of places with Indigenous words and mandatory funding of "welcome to country" ceremonies

Some of One Nation's long standing policies are now very fashionable and obviously popular today and I agree with some of them. For the benefit of First Nation's people, wisdom tells me there is a time to act and a time to back off and in the current climate, I would save Lowitja O' Donoghue's great name for the work she did for a more favourable time. I acknowledge and support our First Nation's people and their culture.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Anthony Honner.

ANTHONY HONNER