



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

# Submission OB370

Anonymous 64

This submission relates to both the proposed boundary change and the proposed name change for the electorate of Grey.

### **On the boundary change**

Grey already covers approximately 90% of South Australia, making it the state's largest electorate by a significant margin. While it meets the democratic standard of equal constituent numbers, it does not reflect the reality of representing communities spread across nearly 909,000 square kilometres. Tom has to cover everything from wheat farming, wool, and pastoral grazing to mining, heavy industry in Whyalla and Port Pirie, and the commercial fishing fleets out of Port Lincoln. Expanding the electorate to include areas such as RiverLea would stretch those responsibilities further and reduce the quality of representation for communities that already contend with the challenges of distance.

In terms of community of interests, RiverLea in particular sits close to metropolitan Adelaide and has far more in common with surrounding metropolitan or peri-urban electorates than with the regional, agricultural, and industrial communities that define Grey. Absorbing it into Grey would place communities with very different economic, social, and regional interests under the same representative, which works against both.

The means of communication and travel within Grey are already a significant challenge. The distances involved mean that access to an MP is not straightforward for many constituents, and expanding the boundary only compounds that. RiverLea, in particular, would be better served by a representative who can engage with it directly and understand the pressures of a community closer to the city.

### **On the name change**

Hundreds of thousands of people live within Grey, each with their own experiences and contributions to the electorate. Naming it after one individual feels as though it diminishes the collective identity of everyone else. Grey has existed as an electorate since 1903 and carries a geographic and historical identity that belongs to the region as a whole. A name that reflects that broader character would be far more representative of the people who live there.