
From:
Sent: Wednesday, 29 July 2015 7:50 AM
To: 2015 Electoral Boundaries Review
Subject: No removal of regional seat, please

I have practiced as a social worker and primary/secondary/tertiary educator for over 40 years, with 30 of those working in regional centres - Armidale in Northern NSW, and Bunbury, W.A.(17 years to date). I have witnessed the exponentially high level of regional/rural disadvantage in terms of health and social service provision, lack of transport and other infrastructural provision. Irrespective of my personal views on the nature, form & substance of 'parliamentary democracy', I know from repeated experience that appeal to a local Member (of parliament) is the only meaningful appeal to evaluative justice/consideration/attention for voters in terms of a range of appropriate social/health provisions that are taken for granted in Metropolitan centres. ACOSS and other bodies provide formal ongoing evidence of what I know in this regard; and in terms of culturally appropriate regional service provision, please see as evidence my own research funded by the Disability Services Commission 'Learning to Listen'(2009-11).(I'm happy to provide a copy if it's been mislaid - smile). The current reality would seem to be that one less regional Member would mean thousands less chances of regional bodies/individuals being heard in their request for appropriate essential services.

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