From: To: Subject: Date: Importance: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox

Ob66 - FW: Petition to change the Electoral Boundaries submission due August 21st 2023 Friday, 11 August 2023 12:21:22 PM High

Objection 66

## From:

Sent: Wednesday, 9 August 2023 6:05 PM

To: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>Subject: Petition to change the Electoral Boundaries submission due August 21st 2023Importance: High

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Re:	Electoral Boundary Changes in Regional WA
Date	August 9 <sup>th</sup> 2023
Email	
Address	Applecross 6153

It is imperative that the state retain the current 16 regional seats in the Legislative Assembly.

Over the years there has been a gradual erosion of regional political representation. Already regional constituents are disadvantaged. It is essential to have access to their local member and the services that the member provides and his or her advocacy for the region. The regions are the **backbone** of WA with their farming and mining communities. They provide the revenue for WA. While living in the regions there has to be access to education facilities, health facilities, child care facilities, transport infrastructure and retail outlets. How can this rural community have a voice if there is not a local member representing their views? As it is the community has to travel kms to see their member face to face to address local issues. The communities views would **not be** represented by the proposal of the removal of a regional electorate. This is a fundamental democratic right and it is the present governments responsibility to hear all of the community, especially those who are disadvantaged by distance. *Equal voter distribution is therefore fundamentally flawed*.

The average number of voters in country WA is 29,520 per seat or just 3.12% below the average but within the allowable 10% below the average, *so change is not required at this time*.

Retention of the 16 regional seats is essential and imperative for good governance for the people for which the present government has an obligation to represent.

Sincerely, Mrs. Susan Martin. lands on which our electoral activities take place. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.