From: <u>Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox</u>

To:

**Subject:** Ob 107 - FW: Response to Suggestions - Boundaries

**Date:** Thursday, 17 August 2023 1:32:23 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.jpg</u>

Importance: High

From: Julie Walsh

Sent: Tuesday, 15 August 2023 3:26 PM

To: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>

**Subject:** Response to Suggestions - Boundaries

Importance: High

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Dear Commissioner,

I wish to respond to electoral boundary suggestions published on your website.

The changes you are proposing will result in an unwieldy governance of such a diverse area. How can one representative manage arid lands, pastoral, coastal and temperate farming as on bloc in a fair and effective representation of your state income earners?

The priority of regional issues will be severely downgraded. This will then belittle the importance that rural matters have in regards to the survival of the city.

Rural areas in Western Australia should carry voting representation that is indicative of the wealth provided to this state.

Despite consistently suffering worse outcomes than their city cousins, regional West Australians will lose 18 dedicated regional representatives after the next election due to changes to a whole-of-state electorate in the Legislative Council.

It is of utmost importance that this loss of representation in the upper house is not compounded by reduced legislative assembly representation.

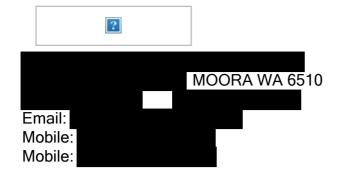
Having read the published suggestions, I support the resounding collective sentiment from many submissions that sixteen regional seats must be maintained.

The Labor Party's suggestion to abolish the North West Central electorate in favour of new metropolitan seats may benefit their political fortunes but it would be a devastating blow for regional communities that clearly need more representation now; not less.

Please consider how this redistribution will ensure democratic equity. The fate of regional West Australians is in your hands.

Sincerely,

Julie & Paul Walsh



Acknowledgement of Country: The Western Australian Electoral Commission acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands on which our electoral activities take place. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.