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**From:** Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 August 2023 2:48 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** 501 OB

<b>W.A.E.C. RECORDS</b>	
FILE No.	DST 0152
DATE:	21 AUG 2023
ACTION BY:	_____

**From:** Leanne Meldrum  
**Sent:** Monday, 21 August 2023 12:32 PM  
**To:** Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Response to the proposed electorate redistribution for Western Australia

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Dear Commissioner,

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

Surely you must appreciate the great difficulty an elected representative in a rural seat has in being available to their constituents on an ongoing basis. In my electorate of South Perth, my elected representative can visit the entire electorate in a day or so. In most regional seats, the elected representative would take weeks to see most parts and be a visible presence to the electors.

Additionally, the electorate should, as far as is possible, be constituted with industries and people of a like nature. The proposal for Moore to reach from Muchea to Meekatharra breaches that basis for equity and makes the job of the elected representative so very much harder than that of a metropolitan representative.

This imbalance needs to be mitigated and, if at all possible, prevented. I urge you to use all means to rebalance the vast discrepancies in the physical size of rural electorates v that of metropolitan seats. True democracy means being able to visit and talk to your elected representative. This is difficult in rural electorates in any case but doesn't need to be made virtually impossible.

Rural residents require, indeed democracy requires, that they have a viable say in the governing of Western Australia.

As an example worth considering, the Senate in the Federal parliament has equal weight for each state to ensure that the heavily populated states do not unfairly dominate the governing of Australia. I urge you to keep this sentiment in mind when redrawing the electoral boundaries of Western Australia so that rural electors are not disenfranchised.

Sincerely,

Alan Meldrum

iManage 187 872

*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.*