

530 eb

From: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox
Sent: 21 August 2023 5:01 PM
To: boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au
Subject: 530 OB

From: Zoe Freeman
Sent: Monday, 21 August 2023 5:01 PM
To: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>
Subject: Proposed changes to electoral boundaries

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The proposed Electoral Boundaries, which amalgamate the regional seats of **Moore** and **North West Central** into the seat of **Mid West** in order to to make way for an additional metro seat, will have a devastating impact on those living within the Moore and north west central electorates.

The proposed new seat of **Mid West**, which will stretch from Muchea to Meekatharra and span more than 430,000km², will make it practically impossible for a local member to effectively address their constituents needs. Despite the lower population within these areas, to amalgamate the two electorates will abolish any chance of equitable representation and silence regional voices.

Aside from the enormous geographical area, this area covers an incredibly diverse range of land uses – from rural peri-urban blocks, to horticulture, intensive animal production, broadacre mixed farming, mining, coastal communities involved in fishing, tourism, manufacturing industry and pastoral leases. All of these industries and communities have vastly differing needs making it very difficult to give this area the fair representation it deserves.

The loss of a regional electorate is nothing short of an assault on fair representation for regional voters and follows WA Labor’s submission to the Electoral Commission, which outlined their plan to abolish another regional voice. Health, aged care, education, childcare, housing, communications and power supplies all need greater investment in the regions.

The irony of the government proposing a wa embassy in Canberra and disregarding regional west Australian voices simultaneously is jarring.

Thank you for taking the time to reconsider my response to these changes,

Kinda regards,
Zoe