

486 OB

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From: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox
Sent: Friday, 25 August 2023 2:38 PM
To: Dawn Jones
Subject: 486 OB
Attachments: WA Boundary change.docx

Phone:

From: Bev Harris
Sent: Monday, 21 August 2023 8:52 AM
To: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>
Subject: objections

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See attached

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.

W.A.E.C. RECORDS	
FILE No.	_____
DATE:	21 AUG 2023
ACTION BY:	_____

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OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED BOUNDARIES

This proposal to remove a further WA Regional seat from the WA parliament will increase the stress and lack of voice value for Regional West Australia at a time when this state should be supporting the people of the regional area who already face an uphill battle to be heard.

The letter of the law and the spirit of the law should have equal strength but unfortunately since the last election this has not been the case in our Western Australian parliament where the sheer numbers of the Labor Party has seen unprecedented bullying and this was highlighted by the present premier's unacceptable disgusting personal attack on the Opposition members by referring to them as dogs revisiting their vomit. I mention this as it demonstrates the present Labor Party's total lack of respect for fellow human beings other than themselves; which is reflected in this proposal to further erode the voice of regional West Australia.

The distance between communities in regional Australia (in particular that of the electorates of Moore and the North West Central) already impacts on their voice. A city MP can do the rounds of his/her electorate in about an hour whereas regional MPs and particular the impacted electoral area already have thousands of kilometers to cover which will take days to cover. It has been argued by the Labor party that distance doesn't matter and that all the communities within the proposed new electoral boundary are engaged in similar economic pursuits. Well this being the case less representation is required in the city especially where no economic benefit is gained by the state. All people of the state have the same concerns re health care, including mental health, schools and housing. The people of the bush have these concerns also but their voice is going to be further diminished. However this Labor government does not seem to understand this. and I refer here also to the shocking disregards shown by the reduction of the regional voice in the WA Senate – should the Federal Government be able and chose to apply the same reasoning as to vote value then WA representation in the Federal Senate would be reduced to three. West Australians should be more conscious of the inequality of the one vote one value principle and this proposal to remove the seat of Moore needs to be thrown out as is a grossly unfair proposal when WA people should understand the tyranny of distance.

It is ludicrous to further silence the voice of the “goose that lays the golden egg” (being Regional WA which is the driver of this state's economy) and the proposal to remove yet another representative of regional Western Australia does just this. Manufacturing is a big employer in the city but what are they manufacturing – the majority of goods manufactured are for regional economic pursuits. Without the Regional wealth growing there would be very little secondary or tertiary industry in this State.

I am surprised that at a time when lack of voice is being otherwise emphasized to give more voice to the disenfranchised you are proposing to add to this lack of voice . I ask that you desist in continuing with this proposal to further disenfranchise and marginalize communities who are an importance part of the economic health of this state. This is very unAustralian and so

shocking when city relies on these communities. However this Labor party has seen fit to attempt to diminish bush peoples' right of representation to voice the needs they face.

I feel this proposed reduction of regional voice is about shoring up Labor seats in the parliament by changing boundaries to spread tradition labor votes over nontraditional labor areas. If this was not the case why was the alternate proposal put forward by the Opposition which would see the seat of Moor retained given no credence and dismissed as was the petition to forestall the Aboriginal Heritage Act. I ask that this proposal be discontinued for the sake of all Western Australians.

It has just been announced that our premier wants to set up a WA hub in Canberra. Why- if it's not that distance and lack of numbers in the Lower House in Canberra means WA is not properly heard even though WA has equal representation in the Federal Senate. So why this insistence to further reduce Regional WA representation in Perth Parliament where Regional senate representation has already been mercilessly reduced. This reeks of hypocrisy when he is concerned about WA lack of voice in Canberra but not his own people in regional WA. These latest boundary moves must not proceed unless the premier intends setting up a regional hub in Perth to give regional perspective a hearing.

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