



Objection 27

Liberal Party of Australia (Western Australian Division)

7 pages



16 April 2021

Redistribution Committee for Western Australia
C/- Australian Electoral Commission
Level 13
200 St Georges Tce
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Committee Members,

Liberal Party of Australia (W.A. Division) – Objection to the proposed redistribution of Federal electoral boundaries for Western Australia

The Liberal Party of Australia (W.A. Division) commends the Redistribution Committee for its efforts in dividing the State into 15 divisions. We do not dispute the decisions to abolish a metropolitan division north of the Swan River or to retire the name of Stirling.

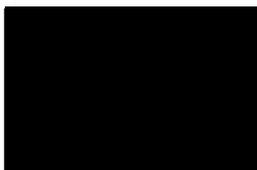
The Liberal Party is putting forward two objections, each of them confined to two adjacent proposed divisions and not therefore requiring consequential changes to other divisions:

- The transfer of the Shire of Wiluna from the proposed division of Durack to the proposed division of O'Connor; and
- The realignment of the boundary between the proposed divisions of Cowan and Perth.

Please find enclosed the written objection of the Liberal Party of Australia (W.A. Division), which includes our suggestion in detail.

The Liberal Party of Australia (W.A. Division) is able to provide additional information and make further submissions should the Redistribution Committee for Western Australia consider it necessary.

Yours sincerely,



Sam Calabrese
State Director

2020-21

**REDISTRIBUTION
OF WESTERN
AUSTRALIA'S**

**FEDERAL ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES
- OBJECTION**



Objection to the
Redistribution Committee
for Western Australia

Liberal Party of Australia (WA Division)

16 April 2021

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SUMMARY

The Liberal Party of Australia (W.A. Division) commends the Redistribution Committee for its efforts in dividing the State into 15 divisions. We do not dispute the decisions to abolish a metropolitan division north of the Swan River or to retire the name of Stirling.

It is recognised that the Committee has sought to avoid unnecessary change and movement of electors, with 82.17% of Western Australian electors remaining in their current divisions.

- One division (Fremantle) has been left unchanged.
- Four divisions (O'Connor, Tangney, Curtin and Moore) retain all their current electors.
- Five divisions (Brand, Canning, Forrest, Durack and Swan) each retain over 90.0% of their current electors.
- Extensive changes to non-metropolitan divisions have been properly avoided.

It is also noted that while the upper reach of the Canning River is crossed by the addition of the locality of Wilson to the division of Tangney, the lower Canning River and the Swan River as far as Guildford remain as clear and firm boundaries, a practice consistent since 1984.

While it may be regrettable that the locality of Bullsbrook, within the City of Swan and the Metropolitan area, has been added to the rural division of Durack, it is appreciated that this is necessary to meet the requirement of additional electors for this division. Any alternative proposal would require a cascade of changes to the proposed boundaries.

- Accordingly, we have no objection to the southern boundaries of Durack, noting that this division retains firm north-south communication links and substantial communities of interest.
- The addition of the Shires of Beverley, Boddington and Nannup, together with 15 Wheatbelt Shires, maintain the rural character of the division of O'Connor within logical boundaries.

The joint naming of the division of Canning is applauded. The life and achievements of the late Sadie Canning MBE are now recognised alongside the existing name of the pioneer surveyor Alfred Canning. This is a sensitive and highly appropriate balance that honours a distinguished Aboriginal lady while avoiding the disappearance of a current and long-established divisional name.

The Liberal Party is putting forward two objections, each of them confined to two adjacent proposed divisions and not therefore requiring consequential changes to other divisions:

- **The transfer of the Shire of Wiluna from the proposed division of Durack to the proposed division of O'Connor; and**
- **The realignment of the boundary between the proposed divisions of Cowan and Perth.**

TRANSFER OF THE SHIRE OF WILUNA FROM DURACK TO O’CONNOR

The Liberal Party supports the Shire of Wiluna in its request to be transferred from the proposed division of Durack to the proposed division of O’Connor.

The Shire of Wiluna has substantial community of interest with the adjacent Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku and with the Eastern Goldfields, all within the division of O’Connor. The Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku prior to 1993 formed the eastern part of the Wiluna Shire, and both LGAs are within the same State parliamentary district. Indigenous people form a high proportion of residents in both these Shires.

Moreover, the Shire of Wiluna is applying to Regional Development Australia to be transferred from the Mid-West Region of Western Australia to the Goldfields-Esperance Region. In terms of major service centres it is 534 kilometres from Kalgoorlie as opposed to a distance of 740 kilometres from Geraldton. Wiluna has formed part of the Goldfields Voluntary Region of Councils since its formation in 2007.

- The three SAIs that comprise the Shire of Wiluna contain 169 current and 152 projected electors.
- The transfer of this Shire from the proposed division of Durack would leave Durack with 114,330 current electors and 112,764 projected electors, both figures falling within the permissible quotas.
- The addition of Wiluna Shire to the proposed division of O’Connor will raise its current elector numbers to 114,035 and its projected number of electors to 113,375. Again, both figures are compliant with requirements.

MINIMISING TRANSFER OF ELECTORS BETWEEN PROPOSED DIVISIONS OF PERTH AND COWAN

It is proposed that the division of Perth retain 100.0% of its current electors and increase its enrolment by the addition of electors within the Lockridge-Kiara and Beechboro SA2s currently in the division of Cowan, together with part of the Morley SA2 and a small part of the Dianella SA2 currently within the former division of Stirling.

This would allow most of the southern section of the former division of Stirling to be transferred to the proposed division of Cowan rather than the proposed division of Perth. The entire Bayswater LGA would fall within the division of Perth, as do the Bassendean and Vincent LGAs, while the major part of the Stirling LGA would be contained within the same division, the proposed division of Cowan.

- The catchment of the Morley Galleria shopping complex would fall squarely within the division of Perth.
- A net further 5539 electors would not be required to move into a new division.
- The locality of Osborne Park would not now be split between two divisions.
- The combined localities of Joondanna, Tuart Hill, Osborne Park, Stirling and Balcatta that form the core of the State electoral district of Balcatta, would continue to be combined in the same federal division.

If the Noranda and part of the Morley SA2s are retained within the division of Perth then with 104,026 current and 106,518 projected electors, it will need to gain between 6231 and 14,409 projected electors.

- It is proposed that the Lockridge-Kiara SA2 with 3537 current and 3363 projected electors, together with the Beechboro SA2 lying south of Reid Highway with 6145 current and 6113 projected electors, be transferred to the division of Perth.
- This would raise the current enrolment of the division of Perth to 113,708; and its projected enrolment to 115,994.
- To equalise enrolments between Perth and Cowan, it is further proposed that the section of the current division of Stirling bounded by Morley Drive, Wellington Road, Walter Road, and Lennard Street be transferred to the division of Perth, comprising part of the Morley SA2 with 533 current and 531 projected electors and a further six SA1s within part of the Dianella SA2, with 1968 current and 1956 projected electors.
- This south-eastern section of Dianella and the small remainder of the Morley SA2 is adjacent to and very much part of the Morley Galleria catchment.
- Altogether, 2501 current and 2489 projected electors would be transferred from the current division of Stirling to the division of Perth.
- This would leave the proposed division of Perth with 116,209 current and 118,483 projected electors.

We would submit that the localities of Beechboro, Kiara and Lockridge that were transferred to the division of Cowan in 2016 had a long previous association with the division of Perth. The north-eastern and northern boundary of the division of Perth would run northward along Lord Street before running westwards along Reid Highway: these constitute clear lines of demarcation.

The non-transfer of Noranda and Morley, and the excision of Beechboro, Kiara and Lockridge would leave the proposed division of Cowan with a deficit of 24,903 current and 24,286 projected electors.

- This would be made up by transferring the SA2s of Stirling-Osborne Park (part), Tuart Hill-Joondanna, Yokine-Coolbinia-Menora (part) and Dianella (part) – less the 8 SA1s east of Lennard Street – to the division of Cowan rather than the division of Perth.
- These SA2s contain 24,936 current and 24,521 projected electors.
- The totals for the proposed division of Cowan would be 118,737 current and 119,728 projected electors.
- Although the proposed division of Cowan would contain more electors from the former division of Stirling than from the current division of Cowan, it is proposed that the name Cowan be retained owing to its historic significance in commemoration of Australia's first elected female parliamentarian.



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Suggestions to the Redistribution
Committee for Western Australia
by the Liberal Party of Australia (WA Division)

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