



THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
TASMANIA

Further objection number 12

Bohdan Bilinsky AM

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Notary Public

The Secretary
Australian Electoral Commission

Attention: Redistribution (Secretariat)
G.P.O Box 520
Hobart Tasmania 7001
Fax: 02 6293 7660

25 July 2017

Dear Sir,

Re: Proposed Renaming of the Electoral Division of Denison

I write to you by way of objection to the proposal to rename the Federal Division of Denison to Clark. I do so not only as an interested member of the community but as a former Lecturer in the subject of Legal History at the University of Sydney Law School as well as a holder of an Honours Bachelor of Arts degree in History and a Master of Arts in History from that University. I have also been a contributor on the subject of legal history to books and publications including the Australian Dictionary of Biography.

The proposed change removes and diminishes the contribution which Sir William Thomas Denison, a former governor of Van Diemen's Land made to Tasmania and to Australia. His contribution was of major significance in the development of the colony. In this regard, I would draw your attention to the biographical entry written by Dr Charles Henry Currey (a former teacher of mine in (1972) 4 Australian Dictionary of Biography, as well as the learned and detailed study by a former colleague of mine, Dr John Bennett, in his work "Reluctant Democrat: Sir William Denison in Australia 1847-1861".

Whilst not being critical of the contribution to the electoral system devised by Andrew Inglis-Clark and embodied in the Hare-Clark system, a system which has not been universally accepted by many, his contribution cannot be compared to that of Sir William Thomas Denison.

I would strongly urge you not to make the proposed change. The recognition of Governor Denison is a deserving one. A future recognition of Andrew Inglis-Clark can be found in another form rather than to change the name of the electoral division.

Yours sincerely,


Bohdan Bilinsky AM
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