



Objection 335

David R.J. O'Brien

2 pages

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 4 May 2018 12:20 PM
To: FedRedistribution - VIC
Cc: David O'Brien
Subject: Objection to proposed redistribution

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Corangamite - proposed name change to Cox

I am a resident in Corangamite residing on a small sheep, cow and alpaca farm located at [REDACTED]. I am also a former member of the Victorian Legislative Council representing the area as part of the larger Western Victoria seat from 2010 to 2014.

I write primarily to urge you to retain the name of Corangamite for our seat given the it is an aboriginal name and one of the original Federal electorates. I don't believe that it matters that lake Corangamite may no longer be in the electorate.

Regrettably I consider the proposed name of Cox will (for reasons already canvassed in the media) result in an unfortunate double entendre for the "Member for Cox" whomever that might be. I believe the problem is potentially embarrassing enough for existing and future female candidates so as to actually discourage rather than encourage increased female participation in political life. Mp's meet with constituents daily and what may seem like a mildless joke or something they "should deal with" would become tiresome after many years and would be another reason that all candidates (male and female) may decline to enter or stay in public life.

If the AEC is desirous of changing the Corangamite then in my opinion it is imperative to come up with another well known local female community leader with a different name to name the seat after. I wonder if the AEC has thought about Lorne based Gail Couper who is only one of few female inductees in the Australian Surfing Hall of fame and won 10 Bells events (which is the biggest event in the electorate and reflects the Great Ocean Road as its number 1 tourist attraction) as opposed to swimming pioneer Mary Cox who is perfectly qualified were it not for the unfortunate double entendre with her name.



2000 - GAIL COUPER

VIC

Born in Melbourne in 1947, Gail Couper became an almost unbeatable force on the Australian surfing circuit.

After moving to Lorne in Victoria, Couper, the daughter of surfing administration pioneer Stan, started surfing when she was 14.

Inspired by the surfing of fellow Victorian Wayne Lynch, Couper won her first State Title just three years after taking up surfing. It marked the start of an unprecedented dominance of surfing events. Couper won 14 Victorian State Titles and won 10 Bells events every year from 1966, missing just once in 1969.

She won her first Australian Title in 1966 with further victories in 1967, 1971, 1972 and 1975.

On the world stage, Couper also made a mark reaching the semi-finals of the World Championships in 1964, fourth two years later and the semi-finals again two years later."

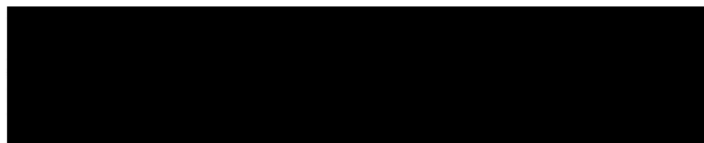
Overall, I believe that the contribution of Gail Couper will be more relevant to the people of Corangamite as Mary Cox's is to swimming and that the seat name of Couper would not have the unfortunate connotations of Cox which are readily apparent.

On a related matter, I also believe that the current boundaries of the seat should not lose Colac as it is an important regional centre to farmers such as ourselves in Corangamite and transport links across the electorate (which are being improved but require greater improvement) centre around links along the Princess Highway between Colac and Geelong and also down to the Great Ocean Road where I live.

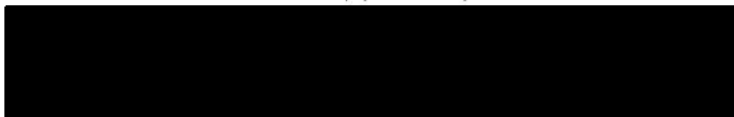
Could you kindly acknowledge receipt and advise if there is any further opportunity to be heard on this issue.

Kind regards

David R.J. O'Brien



Please forward all hard copy correspondence to:



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