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Redistribution TAS - Submission on the proposed Tasmanian redistribution (feedback on ideas)

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Submission on the proposed Tasmanian redistribution details

Category:

Names

Details:

Renaming the electorate of Franklin to Truganini is both a justified and necessary step toward a more inclusive and representative national identity. Truganini was a prominent Nuenonne woman from Bruny Island who lived through the brutal realities of colonisation in Tasmania. Her life reflects extraordinary resilience in the face of dispossession, violence, and cultural destruction, and she has become a powerful symbol of the survival and strength of First Nations peoples. Recognising her in this way would honour not only her personal legacy, but also the enduring histories and cultures of Aboriginal Australians.

In contrast, the current name honours Sir John Franklin, a British colonial administrator whose legacy is tied to a period of significant harm to Indigenous communities. While historically notable, his relevance to contemporary Australian values is increasingly limited, particularly as the nation continues to confront and reckon with the impacts of colonisation.

Renaming the electorate would therefore serve as a meaningful act of acknowledgment and respect. It would elevate an Aboriginal woman's identity doubly underrepresented in place names and align the electorate with modern values of recognition, reconciliation, and equity. Ultimately, adopting the name Truganini would send a clear and powerful message about whose stories Australia chooses to honour.
