



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL
TERRITORY**

Submission OB18

Anonymous 5

Current names

Retain 'Canberra' - geographic name, naming guidelines would support not using. It is based on an indigenous name, which naming guidelines would support using. On balance should be kept as if you can't name an electorate after the national capital then maybe you shouldn't name any electorates after geographic features.

Retain 'Fenner' - named after a person who made a significant contribution to Australia (and to the world), which meets the naming guidelines. He lived in the ACT. And he wasn't a politician or explorer or discoverer, which too many electorates have been named after.

Retain the name 'Bean' - named after a person who made a significant contribution to Australia, which meets the naming guidelines. He lived in the ACT. And he wasn't a politician or explorer or discoverer, which too many electorates have been named after. It is thanks to Charles Bean that we know about what Australians, including Monash, did in World War One through his reportage, and in subsequent campaigns through his work to establish the Australian War Memorial.

Potential names

It would not be suitable to name an electorate 'Namadgi' as it is a geographic name in the ACT, with the naming guidelines being against geographic names. Just because a name has been used before doesn't mean it should be used again.

When the ACT gains a fourth electorate, consideration should be given to using the name 'Franklin' to recognise Stella Maria Sarah Miles Franklin, the writer and feminist, who grew up in the Brindabella Ranges located on the edge of the ACT. It looks like the Tasmanian redistribution is going to do away with the name 'Franklin' which would free it up for use in the ACT in the future.

Norfolk Island

Norfolk Island has been located with the southern electoral division, regardless of which electorate the airport is located in. Putting it into the same electorate as the airport seems to be a weak argument as you can't fly to Norfolk Island directly from Canberra airport. And if you catch the Murray's bus to the airport, which the Member for Fenner seems to be encouraging people to do, you don't go anywhere near Canberra airport and the last ACT division in is Fenner!

Thoughts on the report

The absence of the summary of themes means that there is less information about the reasoning behind the Redistribution Committee's reasons.

I preferred the SA2 composition tables to be at the back of reports, makes it less disruptive to read.

The absence of paragraph numbers makes it harder to refer to the Redistribution Committee's thoughts.

Page 18 suggests that the Redistribution Committee wants to change the names of electorates but isn't game enough to come out and do so (rather like those working on the Tasmania redistribution). Is it because they couldn't find any alternative names? If the augmented Electoral Commission does decide to rename an electorate, then I look forward to further objections (or would that be further ideas given that that items in the legislation seem to be being renamed – is JSCEM going to make some legislative changes?) as doing something that affects 1/3 of electorates would seem to be significantly different.

And aren't all 4 of the Redistribution Committee part of the 6 member augmented Electoral Commission, why should we think they would do anything different?