



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL
TERRITORY**

Submission OB19

Anonymous 6

To the Augmented Electoral Commission for the Australian Capital Territory,

Thank you for receiving this submission of objection.

I am overall supportive of the Redistribution Committee's proposal, particularly the changes made between **Bean** and **Canberra**.

However, I would like to raise an objection to the proposed inclusion of parts of Gungahlin District in **Canberra**. This splits the district unnecessarily and makes the boundary between **Canberra** and **Fenner** less legible than before.

The ACT's districts provide easily recognisable boundaries, and I encourage the Commission to try to unite these in single divisions where possible and where it is logical to do so¹.

Gungahlin District is largely separated from the neighbouring Belconnen and Canberra Central districts by the Barton and Federal Highways, or otherwise by open nature reserves. It would be a shame to remove this strong boundary unless absolutely necessary.

Furthermore, in the Committee's proposal, the locality of Crace would be entirely separated from the rest of the proposed **Canberra** by the Barton Highway and the Gungahlin Grassland Reserve. It has no direct access to neighbouring Giralang. Instead, it flows towards Palmerston and Central Gungahlin.

The easiest solution is to retain the locality of Macquarie in **Canberra** instead of its proposed transfer to **Fenner**. This would preclude the need for Crace and Mitchell to be moved into **Canberra**.

While Macquarie is located proximate to Central Belconnen, it is separated by the strong boundaries of Belconnen Way and Coulter Drive. Retaining it within **Canberra** would keep the closely united localities of Aranda, Cook and Macquarie – which cluster around the Jamieson Centre in Macquarie – together in the one division.

Finally, I would also encourage the Commission to include the entirety of Jerrabomberra District in **Canberra**. This would be a small transfer of 268 current electors or 291 projected electors, the majority of which live in Symonston, closer to Canberra Central than to the Woden Valley District.

On the next page is a map showing these suggested amendments relative to the original boundaries. In total, this would amount to 26,906 electors transferred, or 8.36% of the total.

Thank you for considering this submission. All the best in your deliberations.

¹ I note that the Committee has proposed a split of Weston Creek District through the localities of Duffy and Weston where the district boundary is illogical. I support this idea and would also suggest the inclusion of the zero-elector part of Holder north of Dixon Drive.

