

Submission ID: O-0730
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Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries
Electoral District: Ferny Grove; Hill; Mulgrave

Submission:

I wish to strongly object to the removal of the HILL Electorate. I am horrified that the Rural Vote will be lessened from 13 to 12 and Brisbane gains a further Electorate from 60 to 61. Numbers of voting residents should not be the defining criteria. The Rural Electorates more than pull their weight on contributing to our Economy and it is totally unfair to remove a Rural Electorate, especially as it appears to be in order to remove a very popular hard working sitting Member. Rural Electorates have very different needs and issues, not to mention geographic challenges, than their City Counterparts and it really saddens me that this is being further diminished. Shame on you.

I also wish to strongly object to the new proposed boundaries. They are unworkable and ridiculous. It is unthinkable to divide the Southern Atherton Tablelands Region, especially with the likes of Malanda and Millaa Millaa going into Flinders (which is an unworkable distance to travel to see a Politician let alone the poor Politician having such a huge area to cover). It is absurd. My children who live on my property near Yungaburra would reside in Mulgrave but work in Flinders as their business is based in Malanda, despite the fact that they are only 20 minutes commute from home to work.

I have no doubt the reasoning for removing HILL is mainly due to wanting to get rid of our sitting Member Shane Knuth who has carried out a very long stint in this region. The fact that he has stayed in office for so long is testament to his dedication and hard work. He is there because his Electorate are happy with his representation and commitment. It is a pity that other Politicians don't show as much commitment as he does. However, despite that, Shane wont be there for many more years and it is absolutely ridiculous to remove the current HILL Electorate given the need for stronger Rural representation. The Party who successfully contest the seat depends on the quality of the person they put forward. I am a conservative voter LNP (although have voted Labour in the past) but have been very happy with Shane's representation and amazing commitment to his Electorate.. He is a role model in regards to dedication to HILL Electorate, and his support for local NFP organisations, clubs and individuals is amazing and exemplary.

I strongly ask you to please not remove the HILL Electorate (mainly on the grounds that we shouldn't be losing a Rural Electorate) and if it is unfortunately removed and the change is Flinders and Mulgrave, then the Boundaries that break up the Southern Tablelands are ridiculous and need to be changed. The TRC Area needs to be kept together, not split. Shame on you for this proposed decision.

I, for one will really be looking at who I vote for in the future. I take my role as a voter very seriously and take into consideration voting for the most effective person, the party I think best represents our Electorate, and the State as a whole. The Politician has to have similar commitment, passion and dedication to what we have now, and someone who stands up for our rural

beliefs and values. There is already so much mistrust and concern about the direction we are heading in.
Please leave HILL as it is.