

Submission ID: O-0443
Date Received: 27/3/26, 6:04 pm
Name: Susan Richardson
Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries
Electoral District: Hill

Submission:

See below

Submission Attachments

Email - Susan Richardson - Keep the electorate of Hill in tact as is!.pdf

From: [Susan Richardson](#)
To: [QRC Submissions](#)
Subject: Keep the electorate of Hill in tact as is!
Date: Friday, 27 March 2026 6:04:43 PM

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I am writing to oppose the proposed abolition of the Queensland electorate of Hill! Cannabalisating a stable electorate like Hill does not solve the many problems of other electorates with declining populations. Neither does it solve the increased populations in the south of the state. It does great damage to a self-identifying region of far North Queensland, in particular the Atherton Tablelands and surrounding towns and districts. These include the regional Mbarbarum and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and remote communities. The loss of a stable electorate like Hill would create a loss representation for these and all communities which already face barriers due to distance and access to services. Removing Hill would weaken their dedicated parliamentary voice. State government representation must be meaningful and accessible. Under the Australian Constitution, Australia operates under representative democracy. When electorates become too large geographically, it becomes significantly harder for constituents to access and engage with their MP. A state mp outside this area would be difficult in the extreme. Hill is a uniquely tropical and inland coastal region. The region faces issues very different from inland or western Queensland, including:

- *Tropical cyclones
- *Severe flooding
- *Coastal erosion and sea-level impacts
- *Crocodile management issues.
- *Marine industries and tourism.

Protection and management of the Great Barrier Reef is a major regional responsibility. Combining desert, inland pastoral areas, tropical coastlines, and marine environments into larger electorates makes effective representation extremely difficult. The communities of interest should be preserved as is. Electoral redistributions traditionally consider geographic and community ties — not just population totals. Hill represents a coherent regional community with shared environmental and economic realities. Breaking up this community risks diluting its collective voice. Regional Queensland already faces unique challenges. Access to healthcare, infrastructure, disaster recovery, and regional economic development requires strong local advocacy. A member or parliament located in Mt Isa would be greatly challenged (if not impossible) in assisting constituents when the regional office for medical, educational, agricultural, disaster relief, and other regional developmental concerns are in other electorates. This area is one of the main 'food bowls' for the Queensland state people, and further afield to the nation. Reducing rural representation risks shifting focus further toward metropolitan areas. Queensland's vast geography, in particular the Far North must be urgently reconsidered! Queensland is one of the most decentralised jurisdictions in Australia, especially the Far North. Redrawing boundaries is an illogical idea for solving population and other concerns of other regions!

Susan Richardson

