

**Submission ID:** O-0007  
**Date Received:** 11/3/26, 9:16 am  
**Name:** Judah Thomas  
**Submission Topic:** Electorate Boundaries  
**Electoral District:** All

**Submission:**

To the Electoral Commission of Queensland,

As a resident of the Barron River electorate, I am writing this to place lodge my objections to the proposed boundary redistributions by the ECQ, currently under consultation.

Barron River is a diverse area and contains a unique mix of suburban, regional, and semi-rural communities across the northern Cairns and Far North region.

Communities such as Kuranda, the northern beaches, and surrounding localities share common social, economic, and environmental interests, particularly in relation to tourism, small business, environmental management, and transport connectivity into Cairns.

In reviewing the proposed changes, I believe that many of the proposed boundaries may intentionally undermine and create imbalance in fair, equitable voter representation.

While I understand that the Commission operates independently and according to legislative criteria, maintaining public confidence requires that redistributions clearly prioritise fairness and balanced representation. Even the perception of partisan advantage — often described as gerrymandering — can erode trust in democratic institution

I am concerned that the new boundaries may shift the balance of voter representation in favor of particular political parties and do not reflect that natural attitudes and beliefs of the communities and voters in those electorates.

I am also concerned that the changes proposed may weaken representation for younger voters and diverse communities.

**Electoral boundaries should reflect the evolving makeup of Queensland's population rather than reinforcing existing political strongholds.**

I respectfully encourage the Commission to reconsider aspects of the redistribution to ensure that the final boundaries:

Maintain **coherent communities of interest** across the northern Cairns region

Avoiding the fragmentation of communities such as Kuranda and surrounding areas that share strong social and economic ties

Ensuring that boundary changes do not unintentionally create electorates that favour particular political outcomes.

Supporting fair representation for the growing and diverse populations within the Barron River region.

The independence and credibility of the Electoral Commission are vital to maintaining trust in our democratic system. I appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback and hope that these concerns will be carefully considered as part of the review process.

Kind regards,

Judah Thomas,  
Resident, Barron River Electorate