

Submission ID: CO-0020
Date Received: 26/4/26, 6:50 pm
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Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries
Electoral District: Kurwongbah
Related Submissions: Narangba suburb boundary split - objection

Submission:

To the Commissioners,

I write to formally object to the proposal by the Queensland Redistribution Commission to divide the suburb of Narangba along Young Road between the electorates of Kurwongbah and Morayfield.

1. Destruction of an Established Community of Interest

Narangba is a well-established, cohesive suburb with shared schools, sporting organisations, retail centres, and community identity. The proposal would divide approximately 3,000 residents and key community assets across two electorates.

This directly undermines one of the core principles of redistribution—preserving **community of interest**. The Narangba Valley schools, local sporting clubs, and shopping precinct form a tightly integrated community network that should not be administratively split.

2. Splitting Schools and Youth Communities

The proposal would result in different state MPs representing students attending the same schools or progressing from primary to secondary education within the same local catchment.

This creates:

- Fragmented advocacy for school funding and infrastructure
- Confusion for parents and school communities
- Reduced continuity in political representation for young people

Maintaining both primary and secondary schools within one electorate is a clear and logical boundary principle that should be upheld.

3. Fragmentation of Sporting and Community Organisations

Local sporting clubs and community organisations operate across the suburb—not on one side of Young Road.

Dividing the suburb:

- Weakens coordinated funding advocacy
- Splits volunteer and membership bases
- Creates unnecessary administrative duplication

These organisations rely heavily on consistent representation and support, which is currently provided within a single electorate.

4. Arbitrary Use of Young Road as a Boundary

Young Road is a **major internal connector**, not a natural community boundary. Residents on both sides:

- Use the same schools, shops, and services
- Participate in the same clubs and activities

- Identify as part of the same suburb

Using such a road as a dividing line is arbitrary and inconsistent with maintaining geographic and social cohesion.

5. Disruption of Established Representation

The current MP, Shane King, has a long-standing relationship with Narangba residents, schools, and community groups.

The proposal would:

- Remove representation from institutions he has supported for years
- Split established advocacy channels
- Reduce effectiveness of ongoing projects and commitments

Continuity of representation is an important practical consideration that should not be disregarded without compelling justification.

6. Practical Governance Issues

The proposal creates unnecessary administrative complications:

- The electorate office is located on Young Road and would sit effectively on the boundary or outside parts of the community it serves
- Residents in close proximity would be represented by different MPs
- Service delivery and constituent support would become inefficient

These inefficiencies have already been identified in formal submissions and would likely impose avoidable costs and confusion.

7. Disproportionate Impact Relative to Redistribution Goals

While redistributions are necessary to ensure voter parity, they must balance this against community impacts.

In this case:

- The social and functional disruption is significant
- The boundary choice appears arbitrary rather than community-driven
- Alternative adjustments likely exist that do not split a cohesive suburb

8. Precedent and Planning Principles

Electoral boundaries should, where possible:

- Align with suburb boundaries
- Avoid splitting established urban communities
- Reflect how residents live, interact, and identify

Dividing Narangba sets a poor precedent for future urban planning and representation.