

Submission ID: S-00070
Date Received: 31/7/2025, 12:12 pm
Name: William Bates
Organisation Name: Rexit Australia Inc
Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries and Names
Electoral District: All
Multiple Signatories: No

Submission:

REXIT Submission No1 for QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review – Electoral Roll Accuracy and Anomalies

From the outset it must be noted that the primary interest of Rexit Australia Inc. is the fair political representation for the more than one million residents of Central and North Queensland that is diminished as a result of ongoing redistributions. With the findings of Fitzgerald Inquiry, the subsequent abolition of 40years of 'Malapportionment' voting introduced by the Hanlon Labor government in 1949 and the restoration of the 'one vote, one value' principle, the political influence of Central and North Queensland has been relentlessly eroded and needs to be arrested.
See Attached document

Submission received: 1/8/2025, 8:17 pm. Submission Topic:
Electorate Boundaries. Electoral District: All

Subject: REXIT Submission No2 for QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review – Limit of Initial Tolerance from District Average.

The fallout from the 1987 Fitzgerald Inquiry ended the 40year 'Malapportionment' voting system established by the Hanlon Labor government in 1949. In the 1950s and 60s the electorates were classified as Metropolitan (the Greater Brisbane Area), Provincial Cities and Country. Even then electorates, such as Logan, Albert and South Coast which are effectively the Gold Coast Area were classified as Country as they were at that time rural areas. In 1960 of the 78 Brisbane parliament seats, 39 were Metropolitan, 12 Provincial City and 37 Country. In 1963 the Metropolitan electorate of Baroona had about 12, 000 enrolled voters, the Provincial City of Cairns had near 14,000 while the Country electorate of Burdekin had about 8,000.
See uploaded Submission

Submission received: 4/8/2025, 9:26 am. Submission Topic: Electorate
Names. Electoral District: Callide

Callide, Retention or Abolition

Over its 75years of manipulation by multiple redistributions, the electorate of Callide has been enlarged, reduced and reshaped in all directions. It has moved from being wholly north of Rockhampton in 1977 to now, where it is several times the area and wholly south of Rockhampton.

See Rexit Australia Inc. Submission No3

Submission received: 5/8/2025, 1:24 pm. Submission Topic: Electorate
Boundaries. Electoral District: All

Electoral Areas and Quotas

There is no single, agreed-upon definition of Queensland's regions. Many state government entities divide the state in different ways to align with how they account for resources or provide services. Those departments assessing values, production and population utilizing Australian Bureau of Statistics data configure regions and their internal divisions on the various Statistical Area identifiers (SA1, 2, 3 or 4) while other departments providing service may determine regions on the basis of connectivity.

See

**REXIT Submission No 4 for QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review –
Electoral Areas and Quotas**

Submission received: 6/8/2025, 3:41 pm. Submission Topic: Electorate
Boundaries. Electoral District: All

Representation or Subjugation

It was the New South Wales settlers of the Maranoa, Moreton Bay, Wide Bay and Burnett rallying against the overwhelming political influence and control of those in their colonial capital of Sydney that saw Queensland becoming a separate colony in 1859, a mere 35year after the establishment of Brisbane as penal settlement. 22years on, the people of Rockhampton and the Central Division submitted their first to petition for separation from their now Queensland colonial capital of Brisbane.

See **REXIT Submission No5 for QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review –
Overwhelming Regional Queensland**



Regional Exit Australia

Bill Bates
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[REDACTED]

27th July 2025

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
GPO Box 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Subject: REXIT Submission No1 for QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review – Electoral Roll Accuracy and Anomalies

Dear Secretary,

From the outset it must be noted that the primary interest of Rexit Australia Inc. is the fair political representation for the more than one million residents of Central and North Queensland that is diminished as a result of ongoing redistributions. With the findings of Fitzgerald Inquiry, the subsequent abolition of 40 years of 'Malapportionment' voting introduced by the Hanlon Labor government in 1949 and the restoration of the 'one vote, one value' principle, the political influence of Central and North Queensland has been relentlessly eroded and needs to be arrested.

As with all those engaged in or have an interest in the political process, the Queensland Redistribution Commission is reliant on the good maintenance and accuracy of the enrolment records of the Australian Electoral Commission. However, there is always ongoing issues with records that involve hundreds of thousands of individuals updating their information in a timely manner each year.

Of ongoing concern is the discrepancy between enrolled voter numbers and ballots cast. Since the return of 'one vote, one value' in 1989, Queensland state election voter participation peaked at 92.85% in 1998 and fell to a low of 87.74% in 2024. This is despite that later elections have been provided with the additional convenience of two weeks of pre-polling. While a 5% decline in the overall voter participation may not

warrant any remedial action or review, the persistent much lower than average voter participation of various individual electorate should not be ignored.

Again, I remind the commission that REXIT Australia Inc. is primarily interested in the current 19 electorates of Central and North Queensland. In the 2024 election, 15 of the 19 had voter participation of less than the state average of 87.74%, of which seven were less than 85%. The electorates of COOK, CAIRNS and TRAEGER had 'turnouts' of less than 80%.

From election 2020 to election 2024, COOK enrolled voters increased by 2,678 while the ballots cast only rose 326. In TRAEGER enrolled voters increased by 1,310 and extraordinarily, the number of ballots cast fell by 470. GREGORY was also problematic in that the number of enrolled voters increased by 1,487, only an extra 793 ballots were cast. CAIRNS was also of concern with its number of enrolled voters increasing by 2,704 and only an extra 1,604 ballots cast.

While it was reasonable that there was an uptick in new voter enrollements prior to the October 2023 Referendum the additional registrations in COOK, CAIRNS, TRAEGER and GREGORY in June 2023 were exceptional. In the instance of COOK, in May there were seven additional enrolled voters while in June there were 1,181 which equated to 44% of all additional voter enrollments in the four years between the 2020 and 2024 elections.

TRAEGER in May 2023, additional voter enrollements totalled 27 while in June there were 1,005, which was 76% of all additional voter enrollments in the four years between the 2020 and 2024 elections. GREGORY added 70 voters in May 2023 while in June there were an additional 355 voters, 23% of all additional voter enrollments in the four years between the 2020 and 2024 elections. For Cairns, 74 voters were added in May 2023 while in June there were an additional 835 voters, 30% of all additional voter enrollments in the four years between the 2020 and 2024 elections.

In the 2024 election, voter participation fell in 14 of the 19 Central and North Queensland electorates. The participation rate in the electorates of Callide, Gladstone, Rockhampton, Kepple and Mirani improved marginally.

Overall, of the 709,257 Central and North Queensland enrolled voters, 105,882 (14.92%) did not cast a ballot in the 2024 election compared with 91,732 (13.98%) of the 655,968 enrolled voters of the 2020 Election. While the decline in voter participation is an issue, the additional shortfall in ballots casts compared to the increased number of enrolled voters in the electorates of COOK, CAIRNS, MULGRAVE,

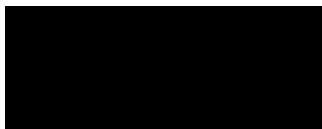
TRAEGER, TOWNSVILLE, and GREGORY is a significant concern and is problematic in light of the abnormally high number of additional voters enrolled in June 2023.

While it is not the responsibility of the Redistribution Commission to verify the Electoral Roll, it should at least seek assurances from the Australian Election Commission that the electoral roll is accurate and provide details of all actions undertaken to guarantee its integrity, at least over the past three years.

Regardless as to when the Redistribution Commission completes its review process any new electoral boundaries will not be implemented till the November 2028 election. With a majority Queensland Government in place and nothing to suggest it will not run its full term. Accordingly, whether the review is completed in 2025, 2026, 2027 or early 2028 is irrelevant.

Rexit Australia Inc. suggest that the Queensland Redistribution Commission review be halted until it can assure the Queensland public that the electoral roll is accurate, any detected anomalies have been remedied and the issue of the continuing decline in voter participation be examined with the express purpose of improving the participation rate.

Kind regards,



Bill Bates
President
Rexit Australia Inc.



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29th July 2025

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
GPO Box 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Subject: REXIT Submission No2 for QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review – Limit of Initial Tolerance from District Average.

Dear Secretary,

The fallout from the 1987 Fitzgerald Inquiry ended the 40year 'Malapportionment' voting system established by the Hanlon Labor government in 1949. In the 1950s and 60s the electorates were classified as Metropolitan (the Greater Brisbane Area), Provincial Cities and Country. Even then electorates, such as Logan, Albert and South Coast which are effectively the Gold Coast Area were classified as Country as they were at that time rural areas. In 1960 of the 78 Brisbane parliament seats, 39 were Metropolitan, 12 Provincial City and 37 Country. In 1963 the Metropolitan electorate of Baroona had about 12, 000 enrolled voters, the Provincial City of Cairns had near 14,000 while the Country electorate of Burdekin had about 8,000.

In the 1970s the electorate classifications changed to Western and Far Northern, Provincial Cities, Country and South East, having 7, 13, 15 and 47 electorates respectively. In 1974 Bob Katter entered state parliament winning the Far Northern electorate of Flinders, receiving 3,594 first preference votes from the about 8,500 enrolled voters, while Val Bird won Country Electorate of Burdekin securing 6,603 first preference votes from the about 11,000 enrolled voters, Ray Jones was victorious in the Provincial City electorate of Cairns with 6,810 first preference votes from the about 15,000 enrolled voters while Denis Young secured the South East electorate Baroona with 5,643 first preference votes from the about 13,000 enrolled voters.

In 1980 Bob Katter won Far the Northern electorate of Flinders for the third time, with 4,993 first preference votes from the less than 11,000 enrolled voters, while Val Bird also won Country Electorate of Burdekin for the third time, receiving 5,783 first preference votes from the about 12,000 enrolled voters, also for the third time Ray Jones won the Provincial City electorate of Cairns with 9,471 first preference votes from the about 18,000 enrolled voters while Rob Borbridge Denis Young secured the South East electorate of Surfers Paradise with 7,459 first preference votes from the about 20,000 enrolled voters.

This period of 'malapportionment' sustained the number of Western and Far Northern and Country electorates that would otherwise not have existed under a 'one vote, one value' electoral regime. The returned 'one vote, one value' mantra has been in place since the 1989 Election and undoubtedly should be the centrepiece of the Queensland Redistribution Commission (QRC) deliberations and outcomes.

With the 'one vote, one value' being somewhat comprised by the Large Electorate Allowance which is a form of 'malapportionment' it is encumbrance on the QRC to prevent any other distortions in the 'voting power' by minimizing the variance in enrolled voter numbers from the District Average of each electorate. Accordingly, either from the outset of, or during the term of the Redistribution, each electorate should either meet or approach the District Average.

While there is no requirement that the QRC equalize the number of enrolled voters in all electorates, there is an expectation that the voter number, initially set in each electorate, is such that it can be reasonably be expected that they remain within + or – 10% of the District Average until the following Review. As at 30th May 2025 the ECQ schedules of enrolled voters detailed that 16 electorates (excluding large area electorate of Gregory) exceeded allowable tolerance, thus the 2016 QRC failed its core objective (refer to Enclosure1).

Bundamba, Caloundra, Coomera, Gympie, Hervey Bay, Jordan, Logan, and Murrumba exceeded +10% while Gaven, Mundingburra, Oodgeroo, Streeton and Toohey exceeded -10%. Most notable, Coomera, Logan, Jordan, Murrumba, Caloundra and Bundamba were 37%, 27%, 20% 18%, 17% and 16%, respectively above the District Average. The population projections for the area of these electorates seem less than adequate.

Of the eight electorates now exceeding the +10% tolerance, as at 30th November 2017, four were already about 5% or more above the District Average while of the

six electorates now exceeding the -10% tolerance, as at 30th November 2017, two were already more than 5% below the District Average (refer to Enclosure 2).

For electorates that are in areas that expect voter numbers to keep pace with the District Average, they should commence the term of the Redistribution, as near to the District Average as possible. In those electorates where the increase in additional enrolled voters is expected to continually exceed the District Average, then the initial number of enrolled voters should be below the District Average and the value of the minus % should be a reflection expected growth in enrolled voter numbers. Conversely, for those electorates where additional enrolled voters numbers are expected to continually fall short of increase in the District Average, then the initial number of enrolled voters should exceed the District Average and the value of the plus % should be a reflection expected decline from the increase of the District Average enrolled voter numbers.

The electors of Coomera, Logan, Jordan, Murrumba, Caloundra and Bundamba can reasonably expect to be aggrieved by the effective devaluing of their vote during the term since the 2016 Review, as a result of the excess of their enrolled voter numbers above the District Average. Equally objectionable for those electors would be the instances where the 2016 QRC created 31 electorates where the number of enrolled voters was below the District Average and remained in minus tolerance for the term of the Redistribution. Additionally of those 31 electorates, 17 declined further from the District Average.

Tolerance + or -	Number of Electorates November 2017	Number of Electorates May 2025
0-1%	15	9
1-2%	12	11
2-3%	10	13
3-4%	12	4
4-5%	12	11
5-6%	12	7
6-7%	7	8
7-8%	4	9
8-9%	5	3
9-10%	0	2
More than 10%	4	16

For the term of the 2016 Redistribution, the number of electorates exceeding + or – 5% increased from 32 to 45. Additionally, eight electorates that commenced the term at +5% or more, remain above that level while five electorates that

commenced the term at -5% or more, remain below that level. Had the electorates that exceeded -10% tolerance been provided at the outset with an enrolled voter number equivalent to the District Average, all would have remained within the allowable tolerance for the term of the 2016 Redistribution.

The electors of Coomera, Logan, Jordan, Murrumba, Caloundra and Bundamba can fairly be further aggrieved that the electors of those electorates that commenced the term of 2016 Redistribution at -5% or more and remained at, or declined further from the District Average, sustained an advantageous voting value while their vote was effectively continuously diminished with each of the three elections during the term of 2016 Redistribution.

The electorate of Coomera was created by the 2008 QRC with the redrawing of boundaries in the Gold Coast Area and was formed from the eastern portion of the existing electoral district of Albert, together with Hope Island from the existing Broadwater electorate and part of the existing electorate of Gaven including the suburb of Helensvale. The electoral roll with effect 17th December 2007 provided for a District Average of 29,560, while the Coomera boundaries capture 27,295 enrolled voters, a deviation of -7.66%. At 10th November 2010 the deviation had increased to +2.88% and was +12.01% by 30th November 2013.

The 2017 QRC baseline was the electoral roll with effect 29th August 2016, at that date Coomera had 42,272 enrolled voters for a deviation of +24.85%. The subsequent decision to increase the parliament from 89 to 93 seats, reduced the District Average from 38,516 to 36,485 the QRC redrawing of its boundaries resulted in its number of enrolled voters reduced to 30,722, for a deviation of -7.37% which was deemed appropriation for the fast-growing Gold Coast Area. However, in November 2017, when the Redistribution was implemented with the State Election, the number of enrolled voters had reached 36,392 for a deviation of +6.39% and went on to exceed the +10% tolerance by May 2018.

The 2025 QRC baseline is the electoral roll as at 30th May details Coomera as having 55,340 enrolled voters with a deviation of +37.44%. Accordingly, the Commission would do well to have an independent review of area growth projections.

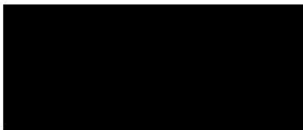
Much of growth in the past has been centred on the Sunshine and Gold Coast Areas, as their buildout and property costs escalate, hinterland and inland development are more likely. Post COVID, interstate migration was primarily centred on SEQ, that pressure has resulted in a significant movement of people into the Wide Bay Area, primarily into the coastal electorates off Gympie, Maryborough, Hervey Bay and Burnett. Both Hervey Bay and Gympie are +12% of the District Average while

Maryborough is in excess of +9%. It would be reasonable that the initial enrolled voter number of these electorates be set at or below the District Average as this trend continues.

It is suggested that:

- a. that the QRC endeavour to better deliver the 'one vote, one value' ideal;
- b. that the QRC better research and give greater consideration to high growth areas;
- c. that the QRC set initial number of enrolled voter numbers, below the District Average, in those electorates that lay within areas of high projected growth while the value of the minus % tolerance should be a reflection expected growth above the District Average of enrolled voter number; and
- d. that the QRC set initial number of enrolled voter numbers, above the District Average, in those electorates that lay within areas of expected low projected growth while the value of the plus % tolerance should be a reflection of the expected decline from the District Average of enrolled voter number.

Kind regards,



Bill Bates
President
Rexit Australia Inc.



Enclosures:

- 1 Electoral Area - Electorate Enrolled Voter Numbers of 30th May 2025
- 2. Electoral Area - Electorate Enrolled Voter Numbers of 30th November 2017

Enclosure 1 to REXIT Submission No2
QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review
Electoral Area - Electorate Enrolled Voter Numbers of 30th May 2025

District Average	40,264				
	With LAA	Dev/Quotas		Without LAA	Dev/Quotas
North Queensland	With LAA		North Queensland	Without LAA	
Barron River	42,075	4.50%	Barron River	42,075	4.50%
Burdekin	36,939	8.26%	Burdekin	36,939	8.26%
Cairns	39,608	1.63%	Cairns	39,608	1.63%
Cook	40,823	1.39%	Cook	36,886	8.39%
Hill	42,158	4.70%	Hill	42,158	4.70%
Hinchinbrook	39,631	1.57%	Hinchinbrook	39,631	1.57%
Mackay	40,753	1.21%	Mackay	40,753	1.21%
Mulgrave	40,378	0.28%	Mulgrave	40,378	0.28%
Mundingburra	35,382	12.13%	Mundingburra	35,382	12.13%
Thuringowa	38,922	3.33%	Thuringowa	38,922	3.33%
Townsville	38,002	5.62%	Townsville	38,002	5.62%
Traeger	36,240	9.99%	Traeger	27,662	31.30%
Whitsunday	39,412	2.12%	Whitsunday	39,412	2.12%
	510,323	12.67		497,808	12.36
Quota Sub Total		12.67			12.36

Central Queensland	With LAA		Central Queensland	Without LAA	
Callide	37,100	7.86%	Callide	37,100	7.86%
Gladstone	37,796	6.13%	Gladstone	37,796	6.13%
Gregory	35,569	11.66%	Gregory	26,375	34.50%
Keppel	41,267	2.49%	Keppel	41,267	2.49%
Mirani	37,942	5.77%	Mirani	37,942	5.77%
Rockhampton	39,444	2.04%	Rockhampton	39,444	2.04%
	229,118	5.69		219,924	5.46
Quota Sub Total		18.36			17.82

Southern Queensland	With LAA		Southern Queensland	Without LAA	
Condamine	43,287	7.51%	Condamine	36,131	5.63%
Lockyer	40,406	0.35%	Lockyer	33,186	2.98%
Southern Downs	39,003	3.13%	Southern Downs	35,311	3.23%
Toowoomba North	41,360	2.72%	Toowoomba North	36,073	5.46%
Toowoomba South	40,405	0.35%	Toowoomba South	36,802	7.59%
Warrego	38,566	4.22%	Warrego	29,294	14.36%
	243,027	6.04		206,797	5.87
Quota Sub Total		24.40			23.69

Enclosure 1 to REXIT Submission No2
 QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review
 Electoral Area - Electorate Enrolled Voter Numbers of 30th May 2025

Wide Bay					
Bundaberg	38,105	5.36%			
Burnett	42,790	6.27%			
Gympie	45,308	12.53%			
Hervey Bay	45,459	12.90%			
Maryborough	43,891	9.01%			
Nanango	41,784	3.77%			
	257,337	6.39			6.39
Quota Sub Total		30.79			30.08

Sunshine Coast					
Buderim	42,925	6.61%			
Caloundra	47,304	17.48%			
Glass House	39,769	1.23%			
Kawana	40,701	1.08%			
Maroochydore	38,950	3.26%			
Nicklin	40,079	0.46%			
Ninderry	44,120	9.58%			
Noosa	38,912	3.36%			
	332,760	8.26			8.26
Quota Sub Total		39.05			38.34

Brisbane-Sunshine Coast					
Bancroft	41,682	3.52%			
Kurwongbah	42,744	6.16%			
Morayfield	43,643	8.39%			
Murrumba	47,816	18.76%			
Pine Rivers	41,775	3.75%			
Pumicestone	43,422	7.84%			
Redcliffe	42,657	5.94%			
	303,739	7.54			7.54
Quota Sub Total		46.59			45.88

Enclosure 1 to REXIT Submission No2
QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review
Electoral Area - Electorate Enrolled Voter Numbers of 30th May 2025

North Brisbane					
Aspley	40,716	1.12%			
Clayfield	43,069	6.97%			
Cooper	38,869	3.47%			
Everton	40,426	0.40%			
Ferney Grove	38,463	4.47%			
McConnel	42,731	6.13%			
Maiwar	41,016	1.87%			
Moggill	36,681	8.90%			
Nudgee	40,647	0.95%			
Sandgate	39,372	2.22%			
Stafford	41,234	2.41%			
	443,224	11.00			11.00
Quota Sub Total		57.59			56.88

Ipswich Area					
Bundamba	47,062	16.88%			
Ipswich	40,721	1.13%			
Ipswich West	40,442	0.44%			
Jordan	48,596	20.69%			
	176,821	4.39			4.39
Quota Sub Total		61.98			61.27

South Brisbane					
Algester	41,078	2.02%			
Bulimba	42,348	5.17%			
Capalaba	37,988	5.65%			
Chatsworth	37,203	7.60%			
Greenslopes	39,023	3.08%			
Inala	39,709	1.38%			
Lytton	40,204	0.15%			
Mansfield	36,881	8.40%			
Miller	36,894	8.37%			
Mount Ommaney	37,187	7.64%			
South Brisbane	42,034	4.40%			
Stretton	34,903	13.32%			
Toohey	34,942	13.22%			
	500,394	12.43			12.43
Quota Sub Total		74.41			73.70

Enclosure 1 to REXIT Submission No2
 QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review
 Electoral Area - Electorate Enrolled Voter Numbers of 30th May 2025

Brisbane -Gold Coast					
Logan	51,432	27.74%			
Macalister	42,889	6.52%			
Oodgeroo	35,350	12.21%			
Redlands	43,404	7.80%			
Scenic Rim	42,980	6.74%			
Springwood	37,187	7.64%			
Waterford	40,494	0.57%			
Woodridge	41,671	3.49%			
	335,407	8.33			8.33
Quota Sub Total		82.74			80.03

Gold Coast					
Bonny	38,453	4.50%			
Broadwater	38,948	3.27%			
Burleigh	38,361	4.73%			
Coomera	55,340	37.44%			
Currumbin	38,331	4.80%			
Gaven	35,612	11.55%			
Mermaid Beach	38,721	3.83%			
Mudgeeraba	42,012	4.34%			
Southport	37,467	6.95%			
Surfers Paradise	38,267	4.96%			
Theodore	39,388	2.18%			
	440,900	10.95			10.95
Quota Total		93.69			92.98

Enclosure 2 to REXIT Submission No2
 QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review
 Electoral Area - Electorate Enrolled Voter Numbers of 30th November 2017

District Average	34,206				
	With LAA	Dev/Quotas		Without LAA	Dev/Quotas
North Queensland	With LAA		North Queensland	Without LAA	
Barron River	34,881	1.97%	Barron River	34,881	1.97%
Burdekin	33,814	1.15%	Burdekin	33,814	1.15%
Cairns	35,875	4.88%	Cairns	35,875	4.88%
Cook	36,022	5.31%	Cook	32,086	6.68%
Hill	36,484	6.66%	Hill	36,484	6.66%
Hinchinbrook	32,962	3.64%	Hinchinbrook	32,962	3.64%
Mackay	36,815	7.63%	Mackay	36,815	7.63%
Mulgrave	33,687	1.52%	Mulgrave	33,687	1.52%
Mundingburra	33,175	3.01%	Mundingburra	33,175	3.01%
Thuringowa	34,752	1.60%	Thuringowa	34,752	1.60%
Townsville	34,299	0.27%	Townsville	34,299	0.27%
Traeger	37,180	8.69%	Traeger	25,770	24.66%
Whitsunday	32,433	5.18%	Whitsunday	32,433	5.18%
	452,379	13.23		437,033	12.78
		13.23			12.78

Central Queensland	With LAA		Central Queensland	Without LAA	
Callide	33,050	3.38%	Callide	33,050	3.38%
Gladstone	31,780	7.09%	Gladstone	31,780	7.09%
Gregory	31,080	9.14%	Gregory	24,576	28.27%
Keppel	34,828	1.82%	Keppel	34,828	1.82%
Mirani	32,316	5.53%	Mirani	32,316	5.53%
Rockhampton	35,299	3.20%	Rockhampton	35,299	3.20%
	198,353	5.80		191,849	5.61
		19.03			18.39

Southern Queensland	With LAA		Southern Queensland	Without LAA	
Condamine	36,131	5.63%	Condamine	36,131	5.63%
Lockyer	33,186	2.98%	Lockyer	33,186	2.98%
Southern Downs	35,311	3.23%	Southern Downs	35,311	3.23%
Toowoomba North	36,073	5.46%	Toowoomba North	36,073	5.46%
Toowoomba South	36,802	7.59%	Toowoomba South	36,802	7.59%
Warrego	34,885	1.99%	Warrego	29,294	14.36%
	212,388	6.21		206,797	6.05
		25.24			24.44

Enclosure 2 to REXIT Submission No2
QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review
Electoral Area - Electorate Enrolled Voter Numbers of 30th November 2017

Wide Bay					
Bundaberg	34,378	0.50%			
Burnett	33,641	1.65%			
Gympie	36,644	7.13%			
Hervey Bay	37,159	8.63%			
Maryborough	35,739	4.48%			
Nanango	35,832	4.75%			
	213,393	6.24			
		31.48			30.68

Sunshine Coast					
Buderim	34,262	0.16%			
Caloundra	33,771	1.27%			
Glass House	32,906	2.80%			
Kawana	34,265	0.17%			
Maroochydore	33,713	1.44%			
Nicklin	32,343	5.45%			
Ninderry	35,107	2.63%			
Noosa	35,285	3.15%			
	271,652	7.94			
		39.42			38.62

Brisbane-Sunshine Coast					
Bancroft	33,407	2.34%			
Kurwongbah	34,223	0.05%			
Morayfield	34,007	0.58%			
Murrumba	36,417	6.46%			
Pine Rivers	36,491	6.68%			
Pumicestone	34,562	1.04%			
Redcliffe	36,206	5.85%			
	245,313	7.17			
		46.59			45.79

Enclosure 2 to REXIT Submission No2
 QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review
 Electoral Area - Electorate Enrolled Voter Numbers of 30th November 2017

North Brisbane					
Aspley	36,347	6.26%			
Clayfield	37,744	10.34%			
Cooper	36,309	6.15%			
Everton	36,395	6.40%			
Ferny Grove	34,980	2.26%			
McConnel	34,311	0.31%			
Maiwar	36,943	8.00%			
Moggill	34,542	0.98%			
Nudgee	36,020	5.30%			
Sandgate	35,653	4.23%			
Stafford	37,034	8.27%			
	396,278	11.59			
		58.18			57.38

Ipswich Area					
Bundamba	33,134	3.13%			
Ipswich	31,377	8.27%			
Ipswich West	33,427	2.28%			
Jordan	32,891	3.84%			
	130,829	3.82			
		62.00			61.20

South Brisbane					
Algeria	33,064	3.34%			
Bulimba	37,182	8.70%			
Capalaba	35,460	3.67%			
Chatsworth	34,365	0.47%			
Greenslopes	35,236	3.01%			
Inala	33,540	1.95%			
Lytton	35,807	4.68%			
Mansfield	33,284	2.70%			
Miller	34,059	0.43%			
Mount Ommaney	34,870	1.94%			
South Brisbane	33,762	1.30%			
Stretton	33,028	3.44%			
Toohey	32,995	3.54%			
	446,652	13.06			
		75.06			74.26

Enclosure 2 to REXIT Submission No2
QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review
Electoral Area - Electorate Enrolled Voter Numbers of 30th November 2017

Brisbane -Gold Coast					
Logan	32,535	4.88%			
Macalister	34,297	0.27%			
Oodgeroo	31,700	7.33%			
Redlands	34,213	0.02%			
Scenic Rim	35,824	4.73%			
Springwood	34,821	1.80%			
Waterford	32,376	5.35%			
Woodridge	35,566	3.98%			
	271,332	7.93			
		82.99			82.19

Gold Coast					
Bonny	32,502	4.98%			
Broadwater	32,949	3.67%			
Burleigh	34,151	0.16%			
Coomera	36,392	6.39%			
Currumbin	33,873	0.97%			
Gaven	32,161	5.98%			
Mermaid Beach	33,795	1.20%			
Mudgeeraba	35,641	4.20%			
Southport	33,307	2.63%			
Surfers Paradise	32,647	4.56%			
Theodore	32,642	4.57%			
	370,060	10.82			
		93.81			93.01

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30th July 2025

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
GPO Box 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Subject: REXIT Submission No3 for QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review – Time to Retire the Electorate Name of Callide

Dear Secretary,

Implementation of the Malapportionment' Voting System

1949 saw the introduction of the 'Malapportionment' voting system by the Hanlon Labor government, primarily aimed at maximizing Labor's vote. It introduced a zonal system, dividing the state into four zones: Metropolitan, South-eastern, Northern, and Western. A key aspect of this system was the varying vote weightages across zones, with rural zones having a lower number of electors per representative compared to the Metropolitan zone.

1949 ZONE ENROLMENTS

The enrolment certified for each zone and the respective quota of electors was as follows:

Zone	Enrolments	Number of Electorates	Quota of Electors
Metropolitan	259,094	25	10,795
South Eastern	262,469	29	9,373
Northern	100,054	11	9,696
Western	46,438	10	4,613

This change from a 'one vote, one value' voting system, implemented with the 1950 state election provided for the increase in the Brisbane parliament, from 62 to 75 seats. With the creation of 13 additional electorates, some 19 electorate names were retired and 32 new electorate names promulgated. Callide was one of the new electorates. In

its first incarnation Callide was inland, extending from north of Rockhampton, south to Taroom. Refer to Enclosure 1.

1957 Change of Government

The Nicklin led Country Party, in coalition the Liberal Party won the 1957 state election. While retaining the Malapportionment' voting system it reduced the zoning classifications from four to three, Metropolitan, Provincial Cities and Country. The subsequent redistribution increased the Brisbane parliament from 75 to 78 seats and the boundary changes were implemented with the 1960 state election.

While retaining the Callide name, the electorate saw much of its southern area ceded to the new electorate of Mackenzie and being extended to the north and east into the area of the abolished electorate of Kepple. It was now a coastal electorate but still extending inland, west of Rockhampton, south to Biloela. Refer to Enclosure 2.

Bjelkemander

Replacing Frank Nicklin as the leader of the Country, Joh Bjelke-Petersen led the Country-Liberal Coalition to victory in 1969 and set about revamping the Malapportionment' voting system. The 1971 redistribution reintroduced the four-zone system and increased the number of seats in the Brisbane parliament from 78 to 82. This was the start of an era when malapportionment was 'perfected' for political advantage and the term 'Bjelkemander' was coined.

1971 Redistribution

The state was divided into four zones, South East, Provincial Cities, Country and Western and Northern. The South East Zone, encompassed Brisbane and surrounding areas while Provincial Cities included nine major centres, with Cairns having two electorates as did Rockhampton while Townsville had three. The rural Country Zone was primarily of areas about the length of the Great Dividing Range while the Western and Northern Zone incorporated the remaining rural and outback areas, west of the Great Dividing Range

1971 ZONE ENROLMENTS

The enrolment certified for each zone and the respective quota of electors was as follows:

Zone	Number of Electorates	Quota of Electors
South East	47	13,225
Provincial Cities	13	12,252
Country	15	9,627
Western and Far-Northern	7	8,462

The 1971 redistribution was implemented with the 1972 state election. The additional five electorates and the redrawing of boundaries only resulted in minor boundary changes to the electorate of Callide, though there were major changes to electorates about it. Refer to Enclosure 3.

1977 Redistribution

The 1977 redistribution retained the existing four zone classification and the 82 seat Brisbane parliament. One electorate of the Country Zone was abolished to provide an additional electorate to the South East Zone and there was extensive redrawing of boundaries in both the Country as well as the Western and Northern Zone. The electorate of Callide consolidated north of Rockhampton while ceding most of its southern area to the enlarged electorate of Auburn. Refer to Enclosure 4

1985 Redistribution

The 1985 redistribution restored the 'one vote, one value' voting system and provided the increase of the Brisbane Parliament from 82 to 89 seats. The addition of seven electorates resulted in a major redrawing of electoral boundaries which were incorporated with the 1986 State election.

The new electorate of Broomsound with its east/west orientation resulted in the electorate of Callide ceding nearly all its area north of Rockhampton while being extended south and east into areas ceded by the electorates of Burnett and Auburn. Again, it was coastal electorate, though this time, south of Gladstone. With the end of the 'Malapportionment' voting system, the electorate of Callide started its movement south and out of Central Queensland. Refer to Enclosure 5.

1991 Redistribution

The 1992 State election implemented the 1991 redistribution which abolished the zonal system. There was no increase in the number of parliamentary seats though the provision of the Large Area Allowance and subsequent major boundary changes to those western and northern electorates impacted significantly on electorates along the length of Great Australian Divide.

The electorate of Broomsound was abolished and was replaced by the larger electorate of Fitzroy which acquired northern and eastern areas of the Callide electorate. The abolition of the electorate of Auburn saw its electoral area ceded to Callide thus shifting it much further south. Refer to Enclosure 6.

1999 Redistribution

The 1999 redistribution primarily implemented changes as a consequence of population increase and movements. 30 electorate names were retired in favour of

new names while four electorates were abolished in low growth areas to provide for the creation of new electorates in high growth areas.

The redrawing of electoral boundaries and the placement of the four newly created electorates provided an increase of seven electorates to South East Queensland (SEQ) and reduced regional Queensland by seven electorates. The diminishment of Queensland's regional political influence as a result of the 'one vote, one value' voting system had been firmly established.

The 2001 State election incorporated the 1999 redistribution outcomes resulted in the electorate of Callide ceding northern areas to the expanded electorate of Fitzroy and both southern and western areas to provide for the expanded eastern movement of the Lage Area electorates of Gregory and Warrego. In response Callide increased its eastern with the acquiring former areas of Burnett and Maryborough. Though the northern boundary of Callide retreated south, its overall retreat southward was arrested. Refer to Enclosure 7.

2008 Redistribution

The 2008 redistribution saw the abolition of North Queensland electorate of Tablelands and the Central Queensland electorate of Fitzroy. This together with redrawing of numerous electorate boundaries provided for the placement of three newly created electorates in SEQ. The 2009 State election implemented the 2008 redistribution determinations.

With the abolition of Fitzroy resulted in Callide regaining some of its previous northern areas while expanding to the south with the acquisition of areas ceded by Warrego. While the situation for Callide improved, the political representation of both North Queensland and the Central Queensland diminished. Refer to Enclosure 8.

2017 Redistribution

The 2017 redistribution reintroduced increased the number of seats in the Brisbane parliament from 89 to 93. All four of the resulting additional electorates were allocated to SEQ as a consequence to the rapid growth in the number of enrolled voters in the Greater Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast areas. While abolition of regional electorates was avoided, regional Political Influence was further eroded.

The November 2017 State election implemented the outcomes of the 2017 redistribution. While additional four electorates being afforded SEQ ensured no regional electorates were abolished there were significant redrawing of boundaries.

The electorates of Gladstone, Narango and Warrego all ceded small areas to Callie. With the area acquired from Warrego, the township of Bell fell within the Callide electorate. Bell is approximately 170km ENE of Brisbane, hardly Central Queensland. Refer to Enclosure 9.

Callide 2025 Status

Since the electoral roll baseline of the 2017 redistribution, 29 August 2016 to the baseline of the 2025 redistribution, 30 May 2025 the number of enrolled voters increased by 659,989 from 3,084,596 to 3,744,585, increasing the District Average from 33,168 to 40,264, an increase of 7,096. For the same period the number of enrolled voters in the electorate of Callide increased from 32,803 to 37,100, this increase of 4,297 is only 60% of the increase in the District Average.

Over the term of the 2017 redistribution, the deviation from the District Average of Callide declined from +1.10 to -7.86% and there no indication that this decline will be arrested. Of the eight electorates adjoining Callide, Warrego (-4.22%), Gregory (-11.66%), Mirani (-5.77%), Gladstone (-6.13%), Burnett (+6.27%), Maryborough (+9.01%), Gympie (+12.53%) and Narango (+3.77%) only the Wide Bay electorates are able to cede area without risking exceeding the -10% tolerance. Meanwhile the electorates of Warrego, Gregory, Mirani and Gladstone will need to acquire addition areas to arrest their decline from the District Average.

Callide, Retention or Abolition

Over its 75 years of manipulation by multiple redistributions, the electorate of Callide has been enlarged, reduced and reshaped in all directions. It has moved from being wholly north of Rockhampton in 1977 to now, where it is several times the area and wholly south of Rockhampton. Refer to Enclosure 10.

To retain the electorate of Callide near its current centre location (about the juncture of the local government areas of Banana, North Burnett and Western Downs), it would need to advance its eastern boundary further into the Wide Bay Area. However, the low enrolled voter numbers in the Southern and Central Queensland Areas will likely see sections of its southern, western and northern areas ceded. Should this occur, Callide will be further removed from the Central Queensland Area and consolidate in the Wide Bay and Southern Queensland Area. Refer to Enclosure 11.

Alternately, with its common boundary with eight adjoining electorates, the electorate of Callide, if abolished is ideally positioned to provide a remedy for their enrolled voter number issues. Ceding areas to Large Area electorates of Warrego and Gregory could provide a long-term remedy to arrest the rate of their decline from the District Average.

Additionally, the abolition of the electorate Callide would allow the its southeastern area which encompasses the North Burnett LGA and part of the Bundaberg LGA to be ceded to the electorate Narango, enabling it to move into the Wide Bay Region proper with ceding its areas of the Toowoomba and Sommerset LGAs. Refer to Enclosure 12.

Gold Coast, Ipswich, Brisbane - Gold Coast, Brisbane South, Brisbane North, Brisbane-Sunshine Coast, Sunshine Coast and Wide Bay have 68 electorates and a total of 2,790,582 of enrolled voters, equivalent of 69.31 quotas. Accordingly, it would be reasonable that redrawing of electoral would result in a new electorate being added among their total.

The Electoral Areas of North, Central and South Queensland together with their respective Large Area Allowance (LAA) electorates of Cook, Traeger, Gregory and Warrego have 25 electorates and a total of 954,003 enrolled voters, equivalent of 23.69 quotas. The 'malapportioned' LAA of 28,465 increases the total to 982,468 for 24.40 quotas. With the LAA providing 0.7 of a quota it is somewhat problematic that these Electoral Areas retain there current 25 electorates.

More problematic is that North and Central Electoral Areas together with their respective Large Area Allowance (LAA) electorates of Cook, Traeger and Gregory have 19 electorates and a total of 739,441 enrolled voters, equivalent of 18.36 quotas. The LAA fabricated 21,709 enrolled voters provide 0.54 of a quota. Additionally, the electorate of Callide with its 37,100 provides, 0.92 of a quota but many of its voters reside in the Wide Bay and Darling Downs and South West Queensland Regions. Any genuine action to remedy these issues would likely result in Callide being abolished or at a minimum be subject to major changes to its boundaries and positioning.

With the electorate of Callide's history of major boundary and positioning changes and as its increase in enrolled voter numbers is only 60% of the District Average, it will undoubtedly be subject scrutiny. Rexit Australia Inc. suggest that Electorate name of Callide be retired.

Kind regards,

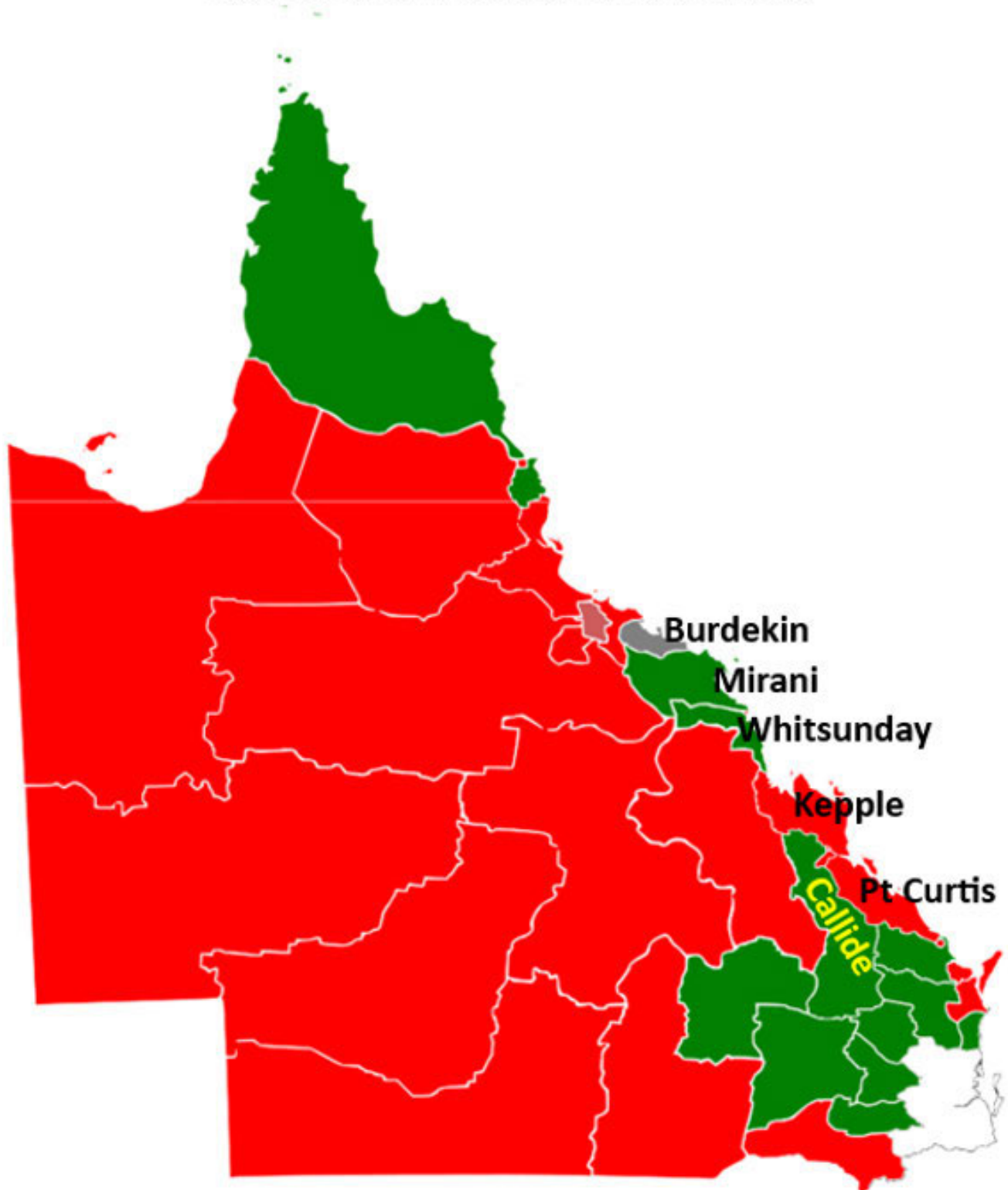
Bill Bates
President
Rexit Australia Inc.



Enclosures:

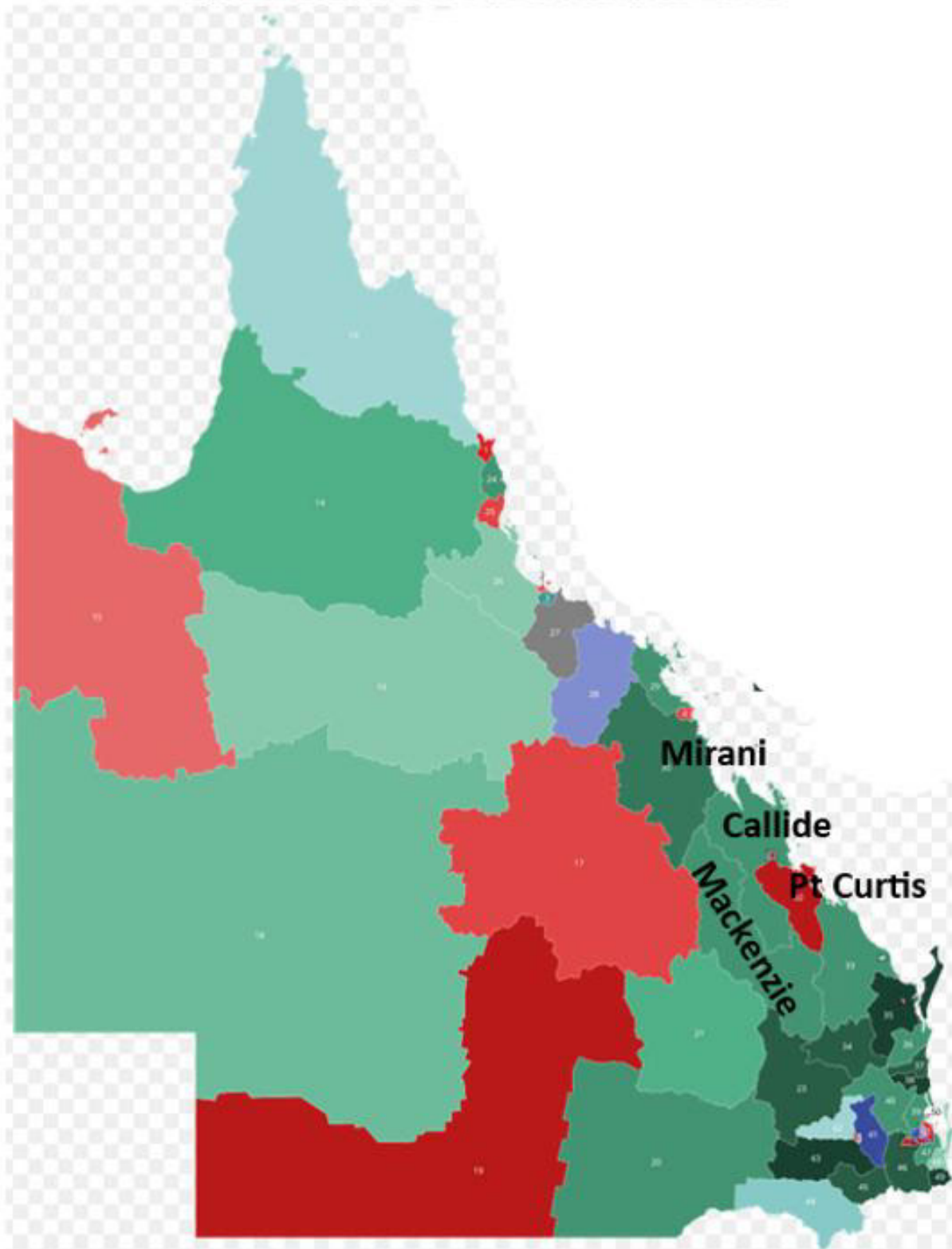
1. Map Queensland Election Results 1950
2. Map Queensland Election Results 1960
3. Map Queensland Election Results 1972
4. Map Queensland Election Results 1977
5. Map Queensland Election Results 1986
6. Map Queensland Election Results 1992
7. Map Queensland Election Results 2001
8. Map Queensland Election Results 2009
9. Map Queensland Election Results 2017
10. Map State Electorate and Local Government Overlays
11. Callide Electorate Wide Bay Overlay
12. Queensland Regions/Callide Electorate Overlay

Queensland Election Results 1950



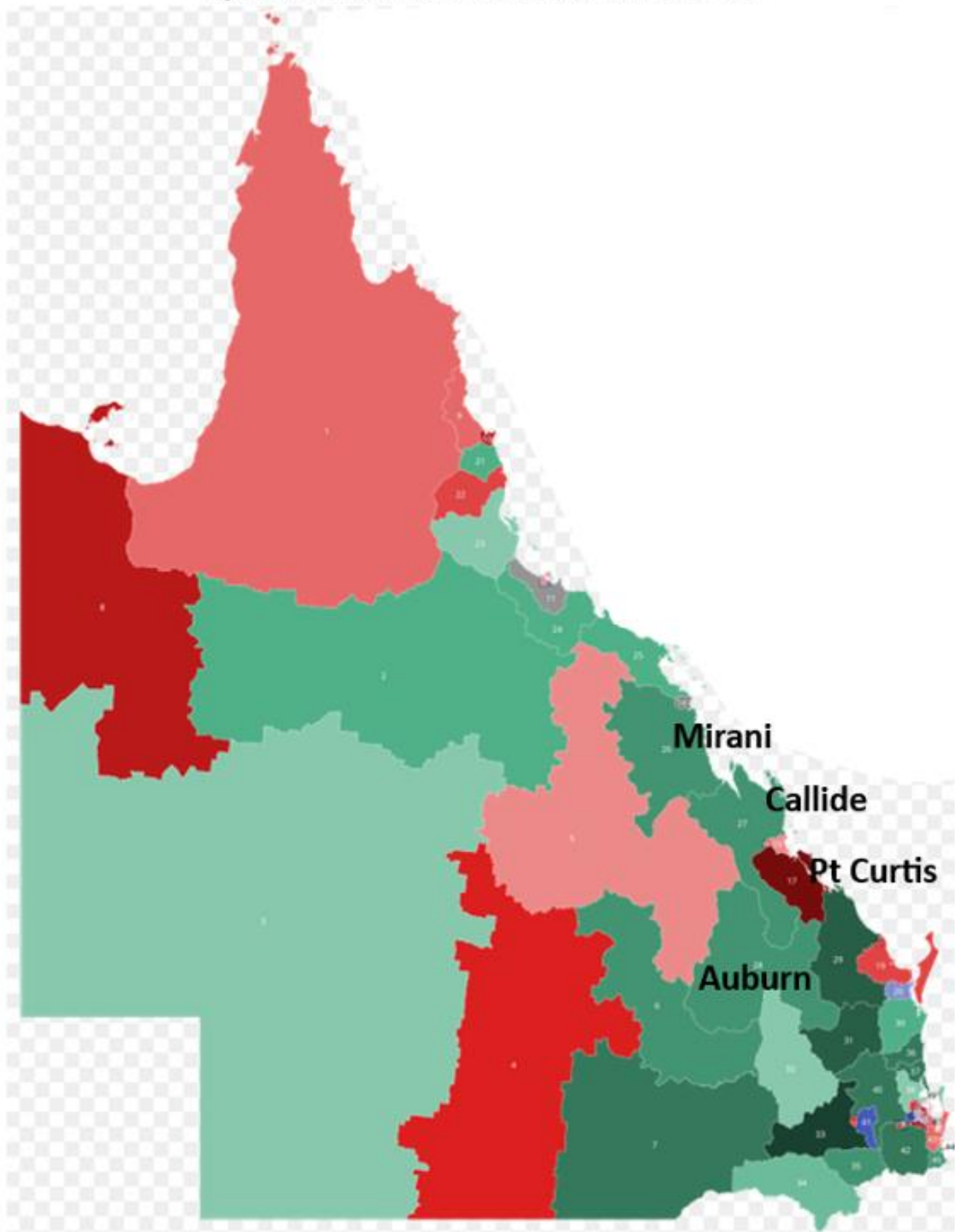
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1950_Queensland_state_election#/media/File:1950_Queensland_state_election_map, alt.svg

Queensland Election Results 1960



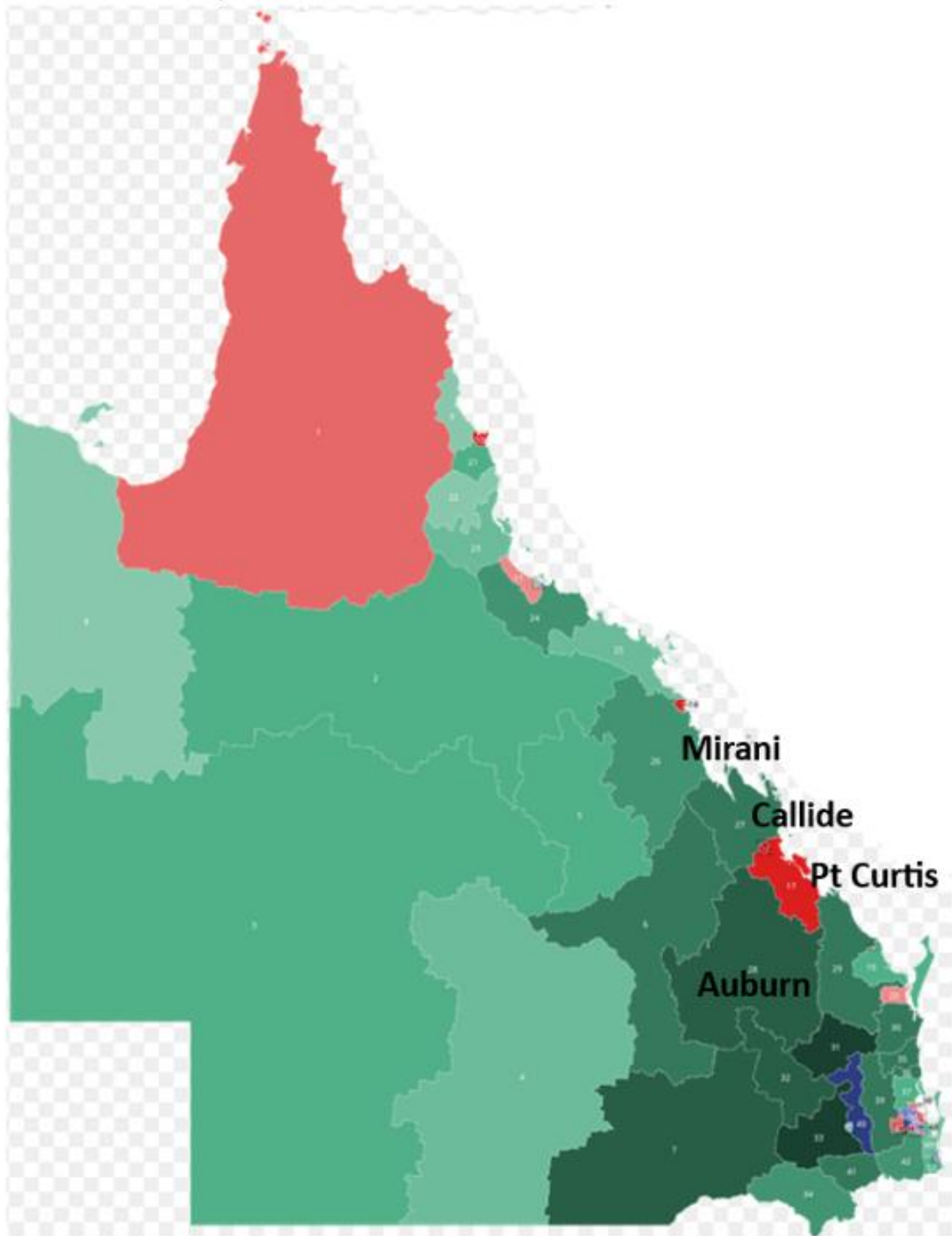
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Queensland Election Results 1972



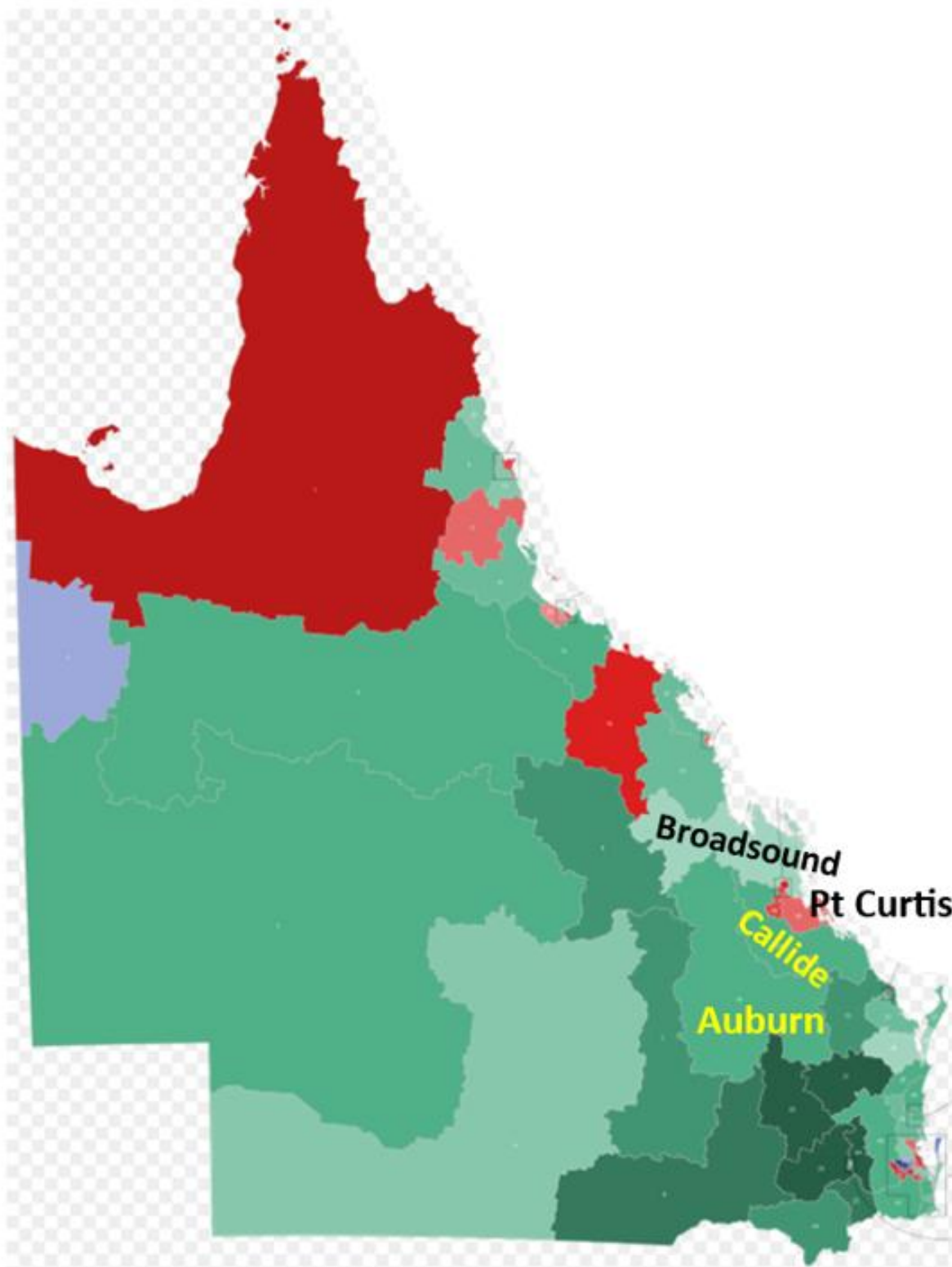
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1972_Queensland_state_election#/media/File:1972_Queensland_state_election.svg

Queensland Election Results 1977



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Queensland Election Results 1986



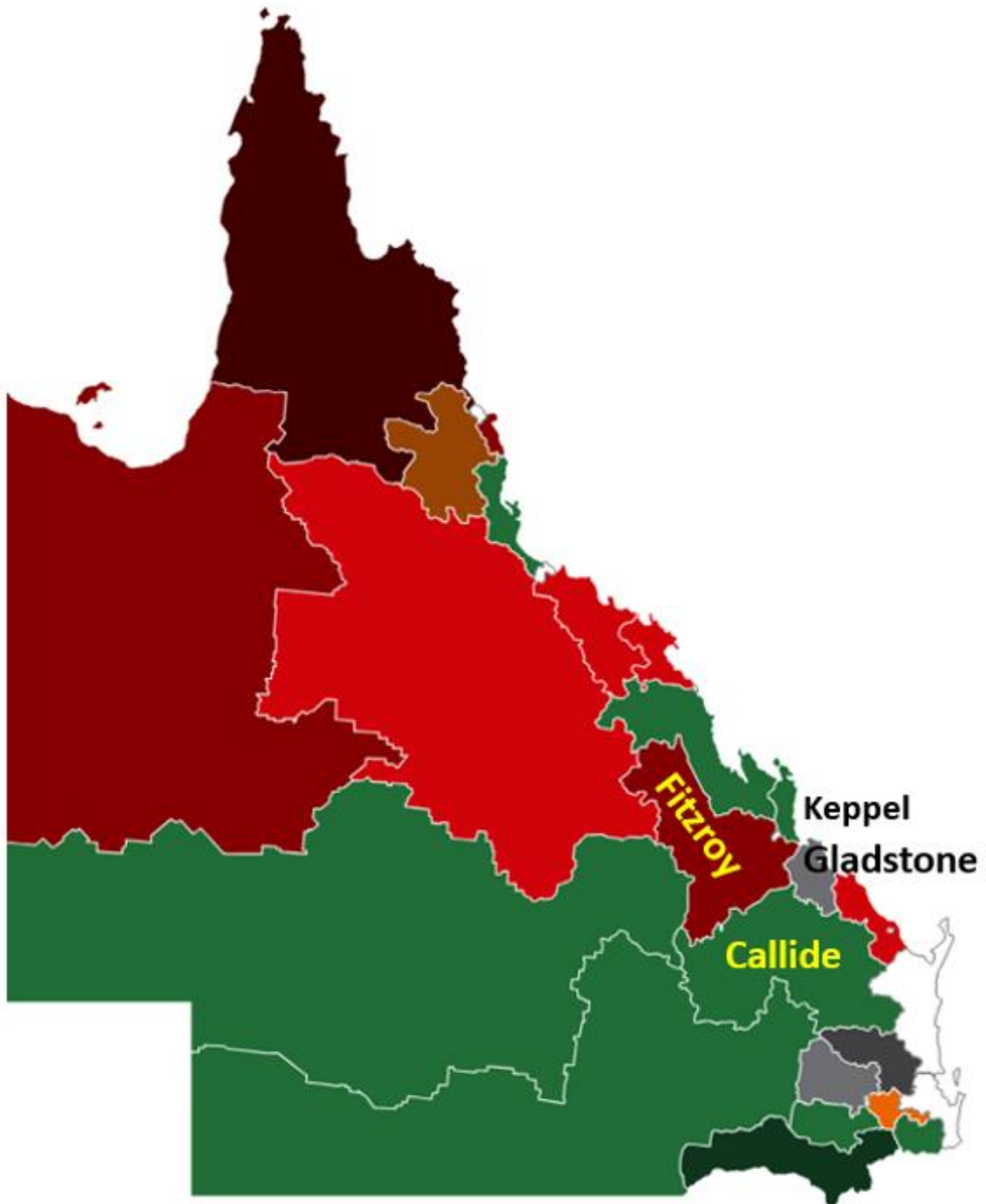
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1986_Queensland_state_election#/media/File:1986_Queensland_state_election.svg

Queensland Election Results 1992



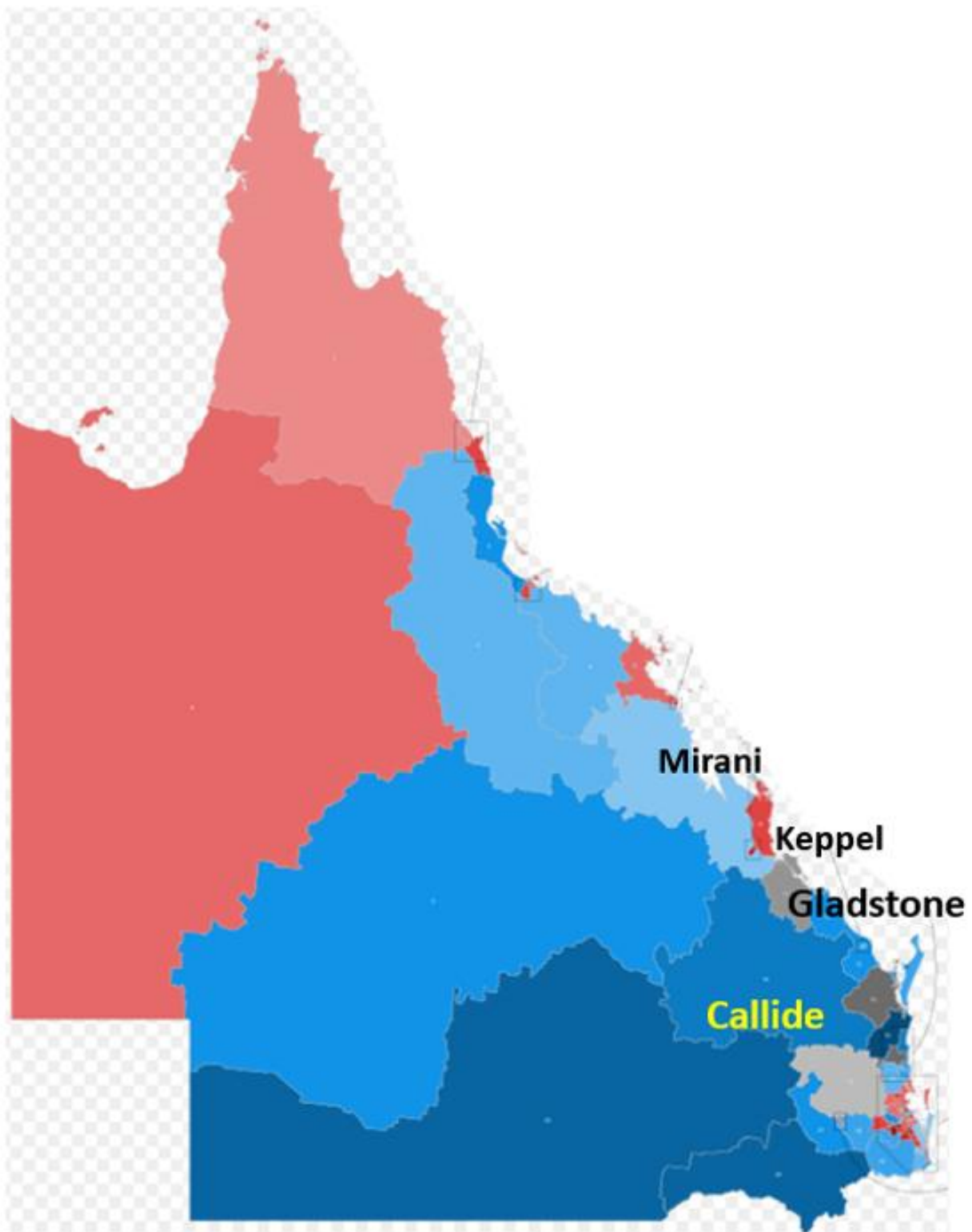
<https://www.ghatlas.com.au/map/queensland-state-election-1992>

Queensland Election Results 2001



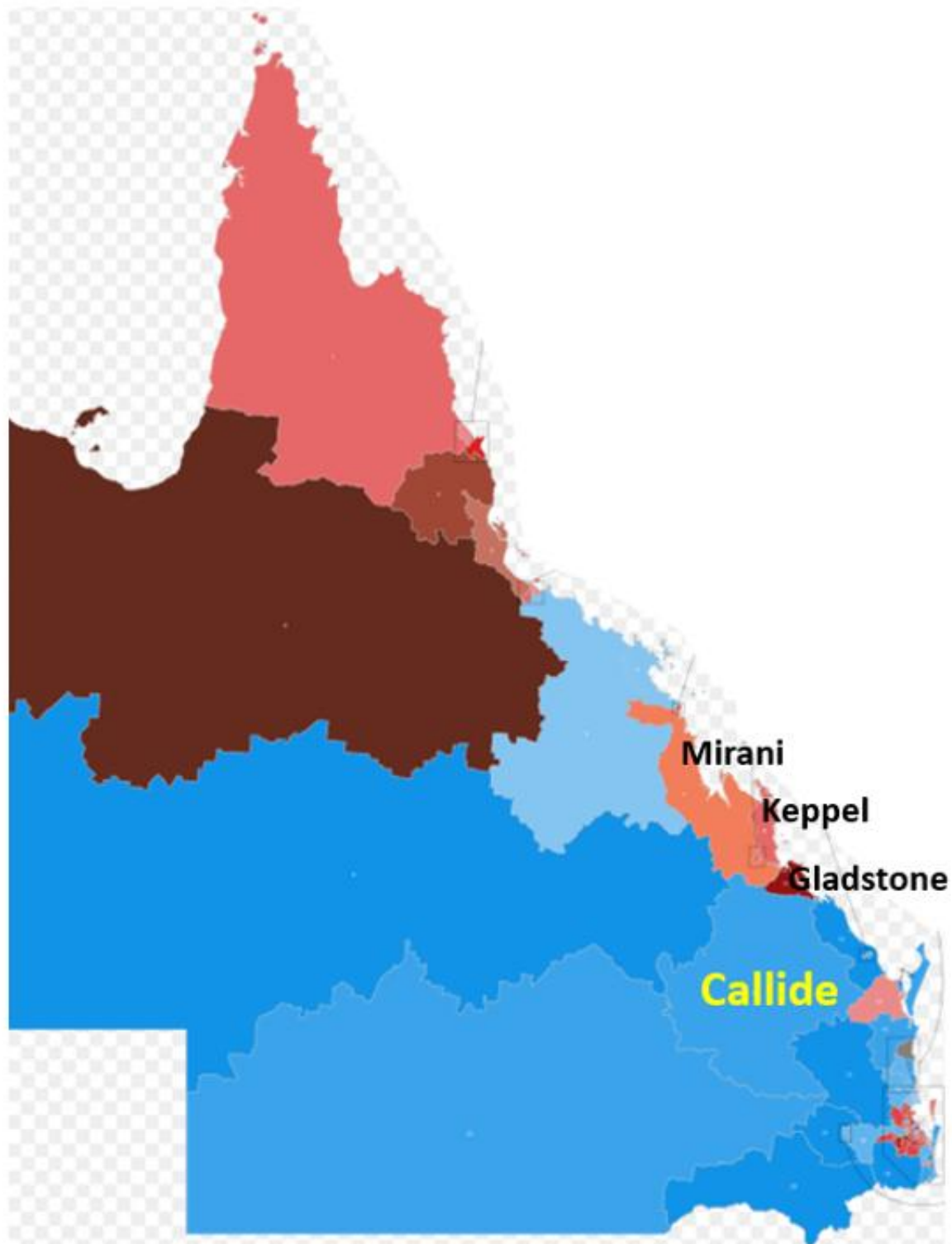
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2001_Queensland_state_election#/media/File:2001_Queensland_election - Vote Strength.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2001_Queensland_state_election#/media/File:2001_Queensland_election_-_Vote_Strength.svg)

Queensland Election Results 2009



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2009_Queensland_state_election#/media/File:2009_Queensland_state_election.svg

Queensland Election Results 2017



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_Queensland_state_election#/media/File:2017_Queensland_state_election.svg

State Electorate and Local Government Overlays



Callide Electorate/Wide Bay Overlay



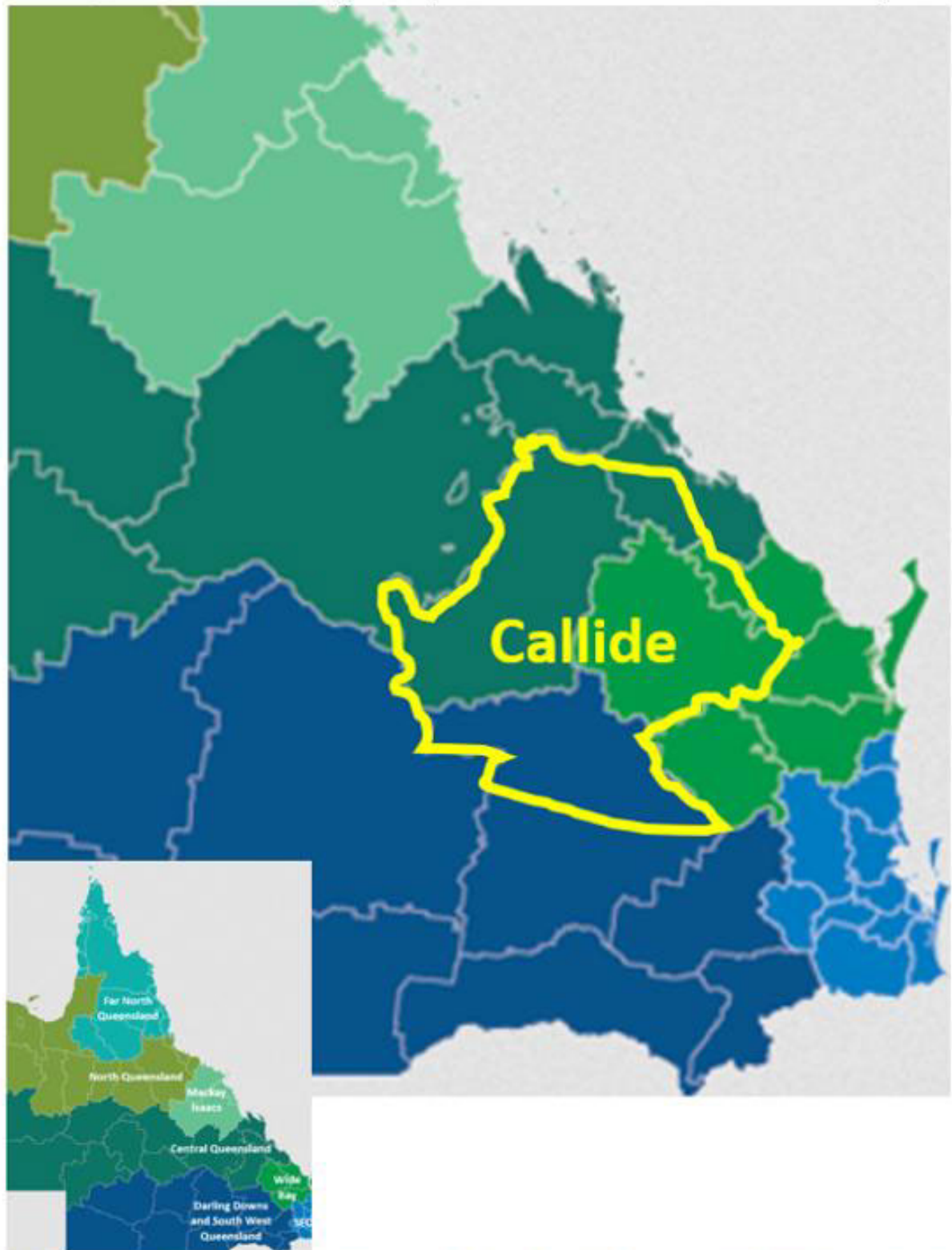
Regional Area of Wide Bay

Wide Bay comprises the Local government Areas of:

- a. Gympie;
- b. Fraser Coast;
- c. Bundaberg (partly within Callide);
- d. North Burnett (wholly within Callide);
- e. South Burnett; and
- f. Aboriginal Shire of Cherbourg.

<https://maps.abs.gov.au/>

Queensland Regions/Callide Electorate Overlay



<https://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/data/assets/image/0030/77781/regional-infrastructure-plans-regional-boundaries-map-800.png>



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3rd August 2025

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
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**Subject: REXIT Submission No 4 for QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review –
Electoral Areas and Quotas**

Dear Secretary,

There is no single, agreed-upon definition of Queensland's regions. Many state government entities divide the state in different ways to align with how they account for resources or provide services. Those departments assessing values, production and population utilizing Australian Bureau of Statistics data configure regions and their internal divisions on the various Statistical Area identifiers (SA1, 2, 3 or 4) while other departments providing service may determine regions on the basis of connectivity.

Current Electoral Areas and Designations

The Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ), Electoral Area designations are unique in that are a mixture of entire, large parts and minor parts of recognized regions, predominately determined by population and subsequent number of enrolled voters within those populations. In high density locations such as South East Queensland (SEQ) there are multiple electorates within a Local Government Area (LGA) while in low density locations there are multiple LGAs within electorates.

In regional Queensland, LGAs are, most instances wholly within an electorate. However, due to the constraints complying with the + and - +10% tolerance limit of the District Average, low density electorates need to spill into some area of adjoining LGAs. The Large Area Allowance electorate of Traeger is an extreme example in that

it not only dissects the LGA of Carpentaria it also wholly encompasses the Far North Queensland (FNQ) region LGAs of Etheridge, Croydon, Burke, Doomadgee and Morning, though it is noted that the QRC does choose to identify FNQ as an Electoral Area.

The extensive electorate of Burdekin not only dissects the LGAs of Whitsunday, Mackay and Isaac, it extends across, both the regions of North Queensland (NQ) and Greater Whitsundays (GW). Again, the QRC does not identify GW as an Electoral Area. This is understandable as across state government entities, GW is not universally acknowledged. While the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning maps depict GW as a specific region as detailed at Enclosure 1, the Depart of Education does not. In fact, while it incorporates the Mackay and Isaac LGAs into its designated Education Regions, Central Queensland map as detailed at Enclosure 2, it incorporates the Whitsunday LGA into its designated Education Regions, North Queensland map as detailed at Enclosure 3.

Callide is another extensive electorate which as well as dissecting the LGAs of Gladstone, Bundaberg and Western Downs, it spans the regions of the Central Queensland, Wide Bay and South West/Darling Downs regions. While it is listed in the Central Queensland Electoral Area, more than a third of its area lies within the Wide Bay and about a quarter of its area lies within the Southern.

Though the electorate of Glasshouse is identified as being included in the Sunshine Coast Electoral Area, about 40% of its total area lies within the Morton Bay LGA that wholly encompasses the electorates of Pumicestone, Bancroft, Kurwongbah, Pine River, Murrumba, Everton and Redcliffe all which are electorates of the Electoral Area designated as the 'Districts between Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast'. While in the Gold Coast Electoral Area, the low density, expansive area of the Scenic Rim LGA needs areas of both the Ipswich and Logan LGAs sustain the electorate of Scenic Rim. Both the Ipswich and Logan LGAs host whole electorates of the Ipswich Electoral Area and the Electoral Area designated as the 'Districts between Brisbane and the Gold Coast' respectively.

Besides the Electoral Area designations of 'Districts between Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast' and 'Districts between Brisbane and the Gold Coast' being both cumbersome and vague, others do not align with their namesake regions. Additionally, providing a separate designation for the Large Area Allowance electorates is unnecessary and they should simply be included in their respective associated Electoral Areas of North Queensland Central Queensland or Southern Queensland.

Proposed Electoral Areas and Designations

Unless Electoral Areas are better contained within their namesake regions there is little value in using those designations. Additionally, with 12 designations, increasing and disproportionate rates of enrolled voter numbers, the distortions between Queensland regions and their namesake Electoral Areas will continue. Reducing the number of Electoral Areas and assigning designators independent of associated regions would provide a remedy.

The conurbation of the Gold Coast, Ipswich, Brisbane and Sunshine Coast diminishes the need to provide individual Electoral Area designators, as they are all equally identifiable as South East Queensland (SEQ). The Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning maps depict SEQ as a specific region as detailed at Enclosure 1. In respect to this redistribution, SEQ has 2,533,245 enrolled voters, equivalent to 62.92 quotas.

With only 30.08 quotas (ignoring the 0.72 of a quota afforded by the 'malapportioned' Large Area Allowance) spread randomly across more than a million square kilometres of regional Queensland, it remains challenging to limit electorate boundaries to specific regional designators which is further complicated in that there is no single promulgated map of Queensland's regions. Currently, the QRC allocates all regional electorates under 5 Electoral Area designators which presents it own set of difficulties. Reducing the number of regional Electoral Areas designators may provide a suitable remedy.

The Large District, Electoral Area designator could be eliminated by simply assigning those electorates to their respective Northern, Central or Southern Queensland Electoral Areas. With the Wide Bay Electoral Area being a major distortion of the Wide Bay region and will likely continue to be 'tortured' into the future, it would be reasonable to abolish its designator and incorporate its electorates into a single Southern Queensland Electoral Area.

The Program Delivery and Operations Transport and Main Roads Southern Queensland Region map detailed in Enclosure 4, incorporates the Wide Bay Region and Darling Downs/South West Region into a single Southern Queensland Region that could readily be used to designate the new Southern Queensland Electoral Area.

Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning map (refer to Enclosure 1) of Regional Queensland provides a guide of boundaries by which to allot regional Electoral Area designators. Far North and North Queensland region

combine to form a single Electoral Area (Northern Queensland), Great Whitsundays together with Central form a second (Central Queensland) while Wide Bay Burnett and Darling Downs/South West make a third (Southern Queensland).

Using the southern border of the North Queensland region, defined by Trade and Investment Queensland as the border between the proposed Northern and Central Queensland Electoral Areas would allot the LGAs of Whitsundays, Mackay and Isaac wholly within the Central Queensland Electoral Area (Refer to Enclosure 5) as would the electorates of Whitsundays and Mackay. This would result in the current Northern Queensland Electoral Area losing about 100,000 enrolled voters to the proposed Central Queensland Electoral Area.

Using the southern border of the Central Queensland region, defined by Trade and Investment Queensland as the border between the proposed Central and Southern Queensland Electoral Areas (Refer to Enclosure 5), would result in the LGA of North Burnett, along with areas of the Bundaberg and Southern Downs LGAs, all of which are part of the current electorate of Callide, being ceded to the proposed Southern Queensland Electoral Area. Central would acquire the southeast area of the Gladstone LGA. The divide of electorates of Callide and Burnett is illustrated at Enclosure 6. This would result in the Central Queensland Electoral Area losing about 15,000 enrolled voters to the proposed Southern Queensland Electoral Area.

The proposed Southern Queensland Electoral Area uses the same boundaries as the Department of Transport and Main Roads, Southern Queensland Region map detailed at Enclosure 4, incorporating The Wide Bay LGAs of Bundaberg, North Burnett, South Burnett and Fraser Coast together with regaining the area of the Southern Downs LGA within the electorate Callide, will provide the proposed Southern Queensland Electoral Area with about an additional 280,000 enrolled voters.

Proposed Northern Queensland Electoral Area – Quotas and Electorates

The current Northern Queensland Electoral Area together with the Large District electorates of Cook and Traeger, total 13 electorates and 510,323 enrolled voters including the 12,515 LAA malapportionment, providing 12.67 quotas. With the electorates of Whitsunday and Mackay ceded to the proposed Central Queensland Electoral Area together with the Whitsunday and Isaac LGA portions of the present Burdekin electorate, the proposed Northern Queensland Electoral Area enrolled voters including the LAA, falls to about 410,000 (refer to Enclosure 6). This would be equivalent to 10.18 quotas, which with the voter enrolment projections for the

Northern Queensland Electoral Area electorates would likely result in one of the remaining 11 electorates be abolished.

The current cluster of the adjoining electorates of Burdekin, Traeger, Thuringowa, Townsville and Mundingburra are below the District Average and are projected to continue to decline. Of the electorate of Burdekin only the voters residing in the Burdekin LGA and those in the southern area of the Townsville LGA remain in the proposed Northern Queensland Electoral Area.

While it would be reasonable that the electorate of Burdekin be abolished, the major redrawing required to address the projected decline from the District Average of this cluster, another electorate maybe better positioned cede areas to adjoining electorates to the extent it is abolished. The number of enrolled voters of the electorates of Townsville, Thuringowa and Mundingburra together with what remains of Burdekin will likely only total, about 130,000 or 3.23 quotas.

Proposed Central Queensland Electoral Area – Quotas and Electorates

The current Central Queensland Electoral Area together with the Large District electorate of Gregory, total 6 electorates and 229,118 enrolled voters including the 9,194 LAA malapportionment providing 5.69 quotas. With the changes to the existing boundary between the Northern and Central Queensland Electoral Areas, the current Northern Queensland Electoral Area will cede the electorates of Whitsunday and Mackay together with the Whitsunday and Isaac LGA portions of the present Burdekin electorate to the proposed Central Queensland Electoral Area. Accordingly, enrolled voter numbers will likely increase by about 100,000 (refer to Enclosure 6).

The changes to the existing boundary between the current Central Wide Bay and Southern Queensland Electoral Areas, will result in the Wide Bay region being incorporated into the larger proposed Southern Queensland Electoral Area. In respect to the proposed Central Queensland Electoral Area, it will result in the current electorate of Callide being divide in keeping with the tradition border between the Central and Wide Bay regions (refer to Enclosure7).

Implementation of the proposed Central Queensland Electoral Area will require the that the Callide electorate areas in the Bundaberg, North Burnet and Southern Downs LGAs be ceded to the proposed Southern Queensland Electoral Area while area of the Gladstone LGA in the current electorate of Burnett be ceded to the proposed Central Queensland Electoral Area. This change will likely result in a net

loss of about 15,000 voters, enrolled in the current Central Queensland Electoral Area.

Overall, the proposed Central Queensland Electoral Area will likely have a total of about 315,000 enrolled voters, inclusive of the 9,194 LAA malapportionment. This number provides for 7.82 quotas which should be sufficient for an allocation of 8 electorates. With the unallocated areas ceded from the current Burdekin electorate and the remnants of the Callide electorate there will need to be significant redrawing of all electorate boundaries such that the initial number of enrolled voters are set such that each can be expected to remain within the + or -10% tolerance for the term of this redistribution.

Proposed Southern Queensland Electoral Area – Quotas and Electorates

Currently the Southern Queensland and Wide Bay Electoral Areas together with the Large District of Warrego have a total of 12 electorates and 500,364 enrolled voters including the 6,756 LAA malapportionment providing 12.42 quotas. The proposed changes to the existing boundary between the Central Queensland Electoral Area and the Wide Bay Electoral Area, the resulting division of the electorates of Callide and Burnett as detailed at Enclosure 7, will likely provide the larger proposed Southern Queensland Electoral Area as detailed in Enclosure 4, with an additional 15,000 enrolled voters.

With about 515,000 enrolled voters inclusive of the 6,756 LAA malapportionment providing 12.79 quotas, the proposed Southern Queensland Electoral Area could reasonably expect that, it be allotted an additional electorate.

Margin of Error

Without detailed data as to the distribution of voters in the electorates of Callide, Burnett and Burdekin, which have been divided to facilitate the changes to the 5 current regional Electoral Area borders, the reallocation of enrolled voters into the 3 proposed regional Electoral Area borders was best estimate. The current regional Electoral Areas have a total of 1,239,805 enrolled voters, including the LAA 28,465 to provide a total of 30.79 quotas.

The proposed Northern Queensland Electoral Area enrolled voters including the LAA malapportionment, is estimated to be about 410,000 providing 10.18 quotas, the proposed Central Queensland Electoral Area enrolled voters including the LAA, is estimated to be about 315,000 providing 7.82 quotas while the proposed Southern Queensland Electoral Area enrolled voters including the LAA malapportionment, is estimated to be about 515,000 providing 12.79 quotas.

Quota Requirement for Electorate Entitlement

Section 24 of the Australian Constitution details the proportioning of electorates to individual States while ensuring that a founding state shall have at least 5 federal electorates. Other than the medicant state of Tasmania which is guaranteed 5 electorates, the entitlement of the other 5 states is determined by their population.

A population quota is determined by dividing the population of the Commonwealth by twice the number of state senators (2 X 72). The number federal electorates of a State shall be determined by dividing the population of the State, as shown by the latest statistics of the Commonwealth, by the population quota; and if on such division there is a remainder greater than one-half of the quota, the State shall be entitled to an additional federal electorate.

While the forementioned does not apply in regards this redistribution and the allocation of electorates, the remainder of a quota within an Electoral Area, could be an issue of dispute. Accordingly, some guidance in regards to quota remainder is required.

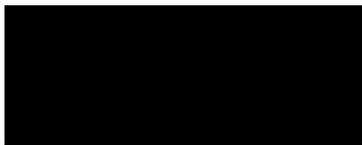
If Electoral Areas are going to be routinely altered by the likes of the current electorates of Burdekin and Callide, there is little reason in having them.

Rexit Australia Inc. suggest that the Queensland Redistribution Commission:

- a. reduces the number of Electoral Area designators from 12 to 4.
- b. reduces the 7 Electoral Area designators of the South East Queensland region to a single designator.
- c. reduces the 5 Electoral Area designators of Regional Queensland to 3 with the abolition of the Large District Electoral Area designator and the amalgamation of the current Wide Bay and the Southern Queensland Electoral Areas;
- d. defines the boundary between the Northern Queensland Electoral Area and Central Queensland Electoral Area, as that determined by Trade and Investment Queensland Region map at Enclosure 5;
- e. defines the southern boundary of the Central Queensland Electoral Area, as that determined by Trade and Investment Queensland Region map at Enclosure 5;
- f. combines the Wide Bay and Darling Downs/South West Queensland Regions as determined by Trade and Investment Queensland Region map at Enclosure 5 into a single Electoral Area of Southern Queensland which conforms to the Program Delivery and Operations Transport and Main Roads Southern Queensland Region map detailed at Enclosure 4;

- g. allots the number of electorates within each Electoral Area on the basis of the number of quotas of enrolled voters;
- h. use the quota determine by the total of enrolled voters 3,7744,585 plus the total of all Large Area Allowance numbers (28,465) divided by the number of legislated electorates (93); and
- i. not create any electorate that cross Electoral Areas.

Kind regards,



Bill Bates
President
Rexit Australia Inc.



Enclosures:

1. Major Queensland Region Designations, Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning map

<https://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/infrastructure/infrastructure-planning/regional-infrastructure-plans>

2. Education Regions – Central Queensland, Depart of Education, Education Regions, Central Queensland map

<https://education.qld.gov.au/contact/Documents/centralqld.pdf>

3. Education Regions – North Queensland, Depart of Education, Education Regions, North Queensland map

<https://education.qld.gov.au/contact/Documents/northqueensland.pdf>

4. Southern Queensland Region, Program Delivery and Operations Transport and Main Roads Southern Queensland Region map

<https://www.publications.qld.gov.au/ckan-publications-attachments-prod/resources/e3064a01-dcb4-4c37-b13d-9cc37e59b84b/southernqldregion.pdf?ETag=001138f4019f9098c8d82ce0314c7d95>

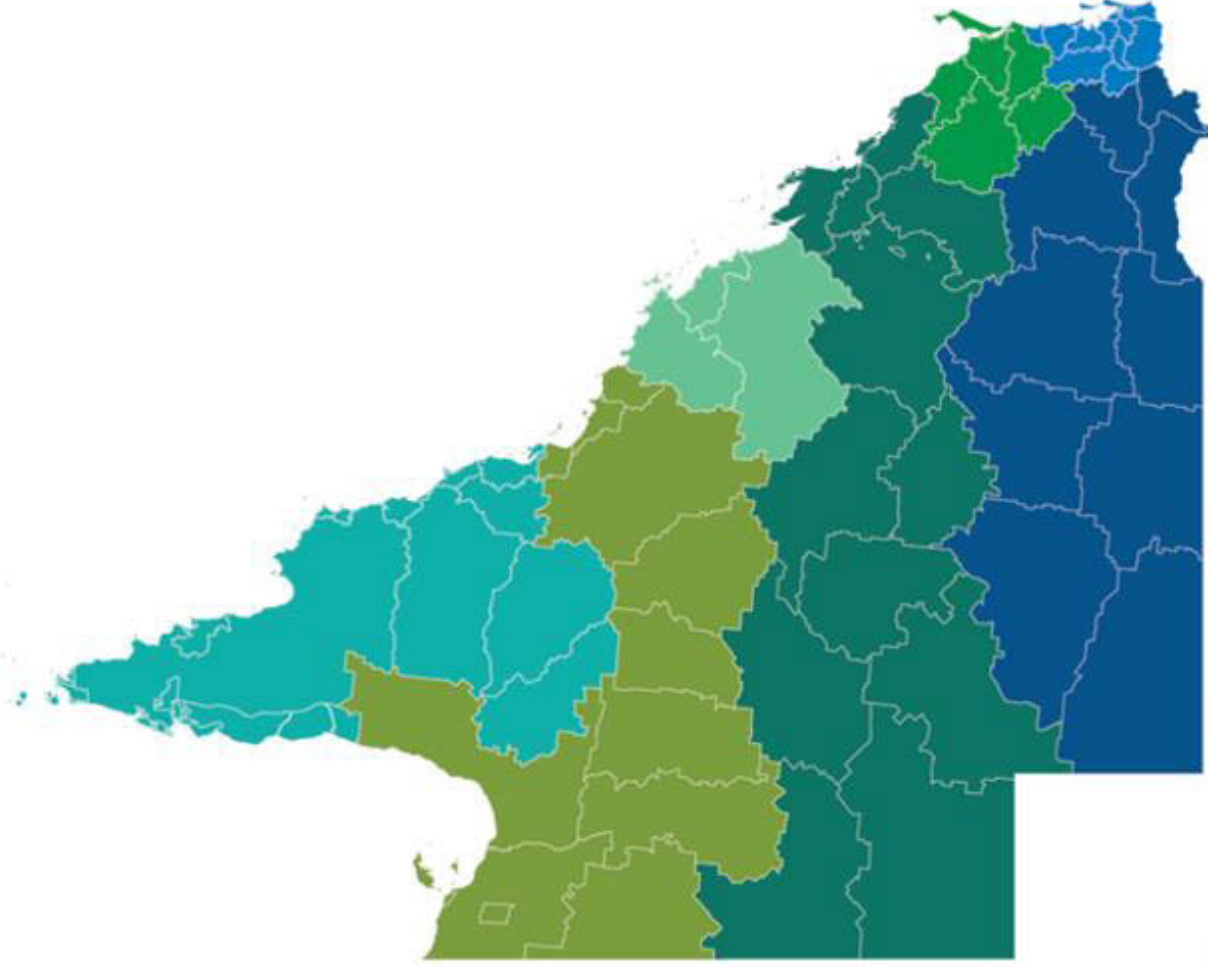
5. Map of Proposed Northern, Central and Southern Electoral Areas

6. Map of Proposed Northern and Central Queensland Electoral Area Divide Ceding the Electorates of Whitsunday and Mackay to the Central Queensland Electoral Area

7. Map of Proposed Central and Southern Electoral Area Divide Through the Electorates of Callide and Burnett

Major Queensland Region Designations

Enclosure 1 to
Rexit Submission No 4



FNQ
Far North
Queensland

NNWQ
North and
North West
Queensland

GW
Greater
Whitsunday

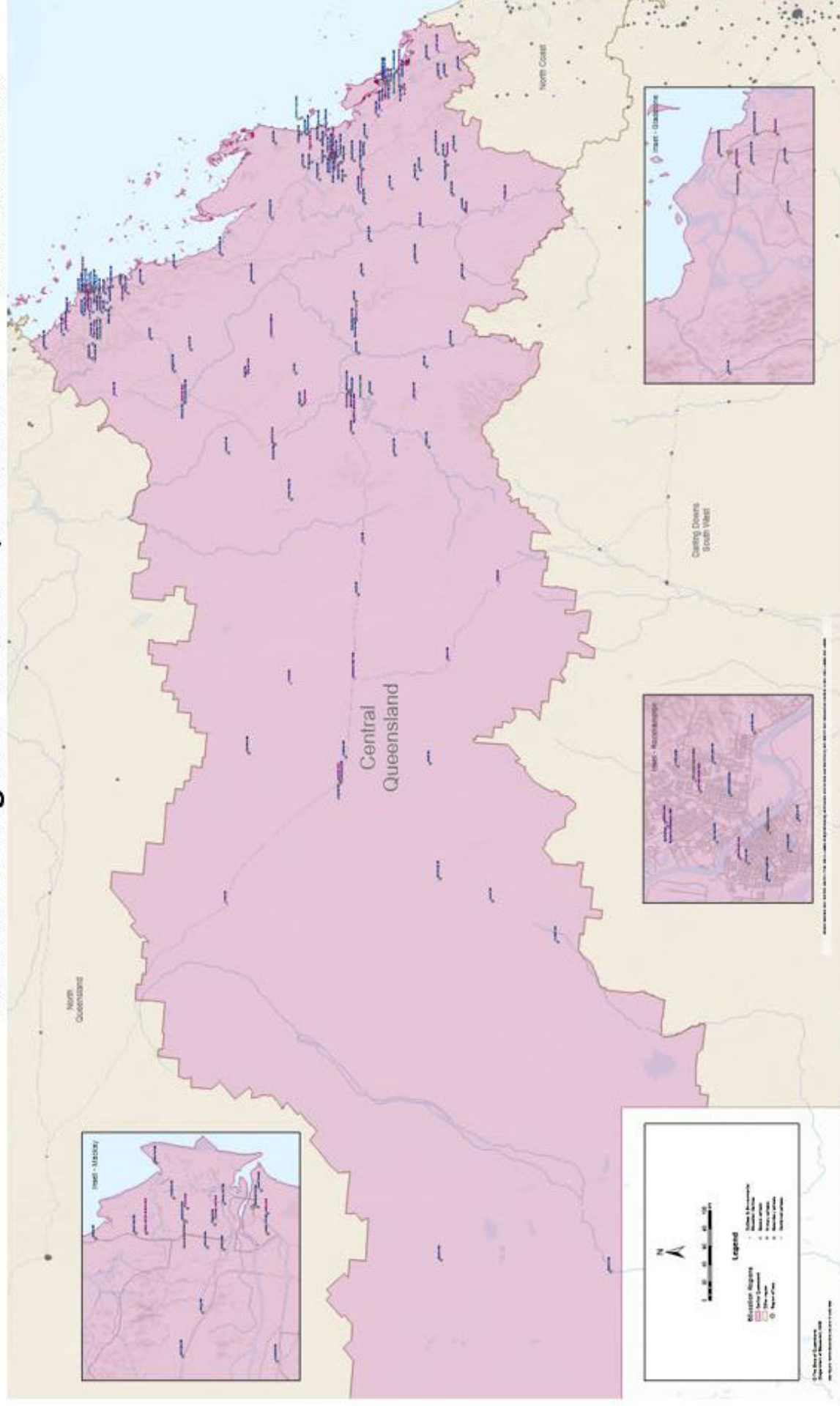
CQ
Central
Queensland

WBB
Wide Bay
Burnett

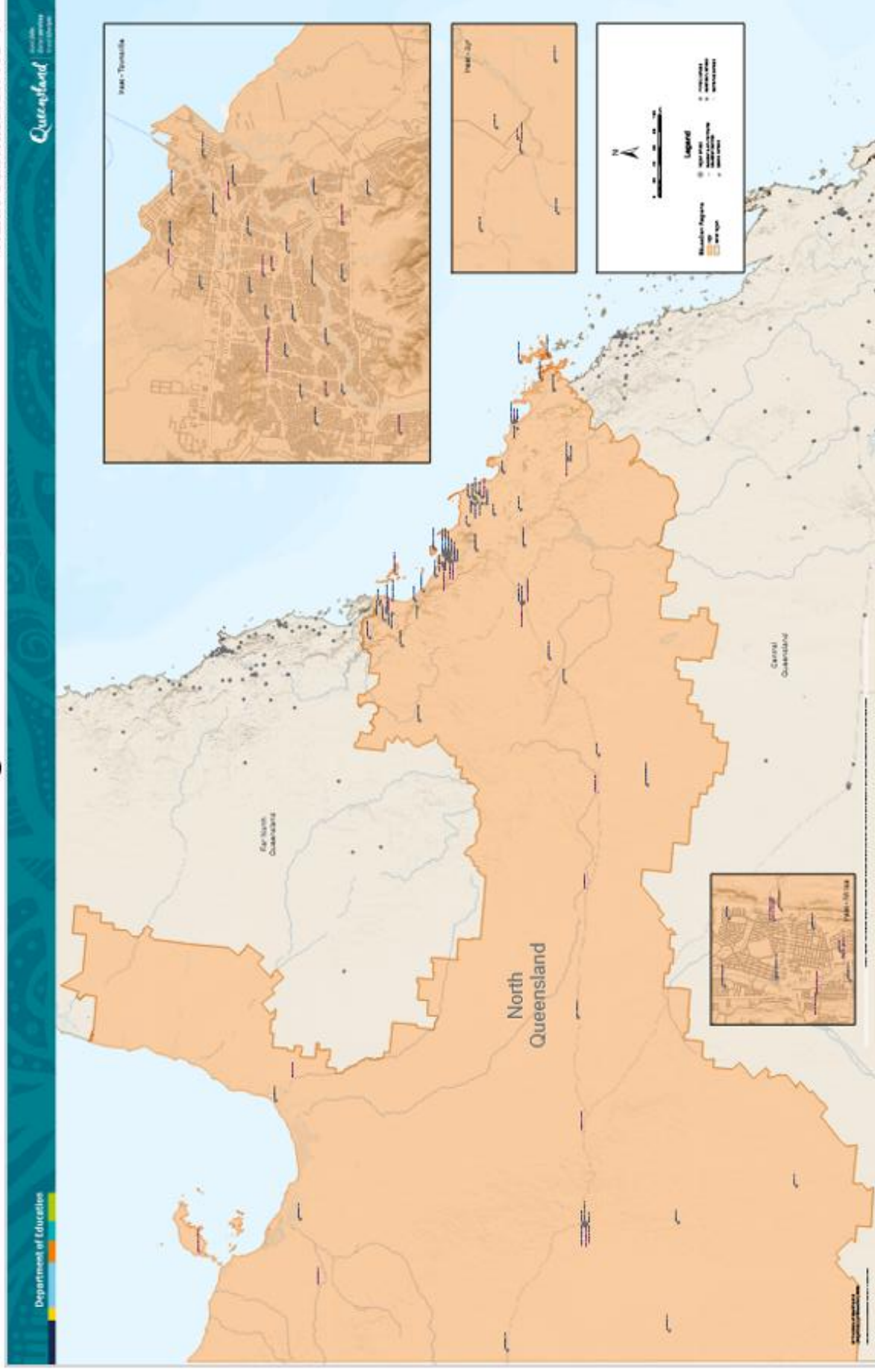
DDSW
Darling
Downs and
South West

SEQ
South East
Queensland

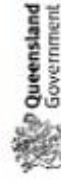
Education Regions - Central Queensland



Education Regions - North Queensland



Education Regions - North Queensland



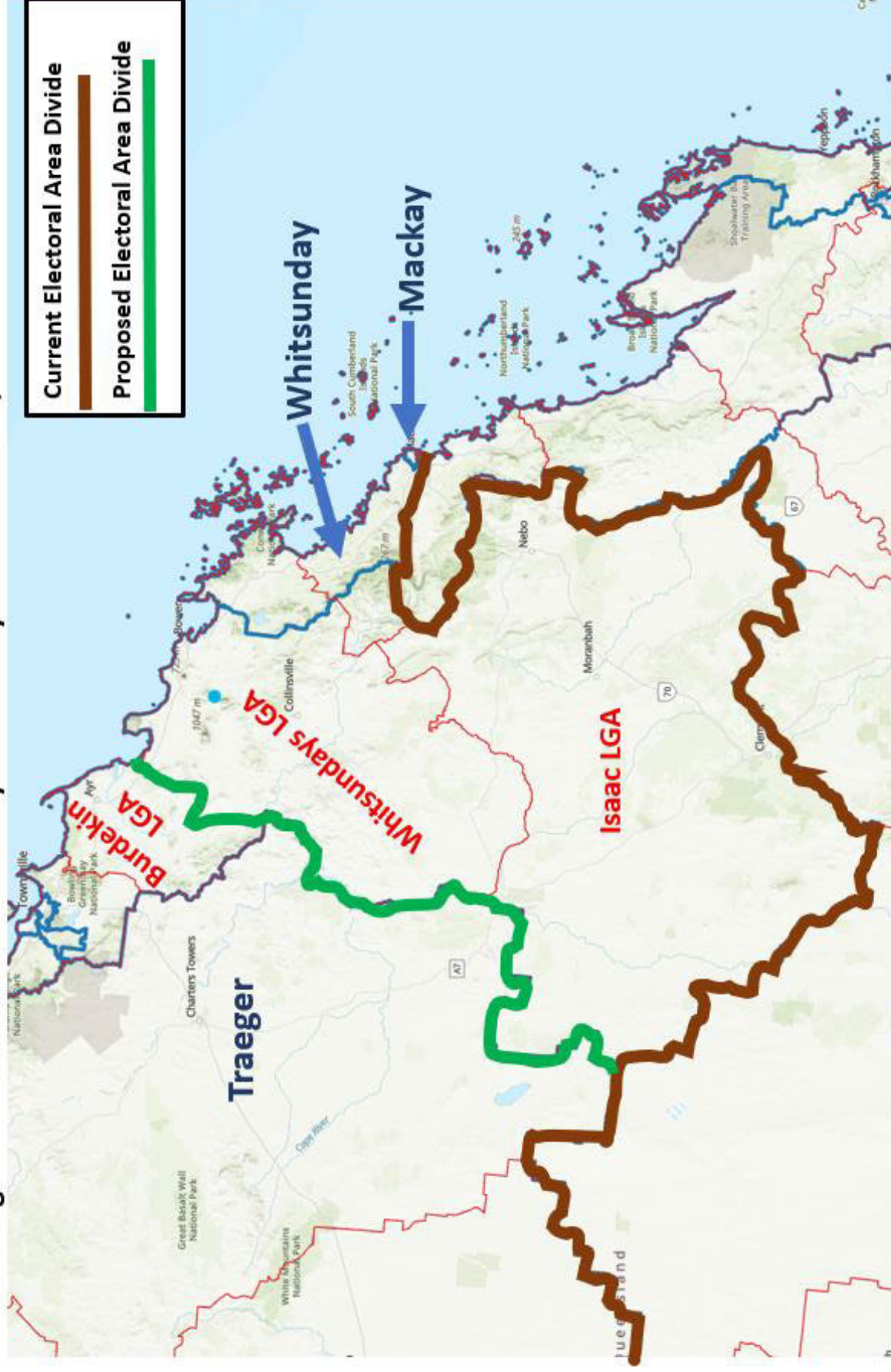
<https://education.qld.gov.au/contact/Documents/northqueensland.pdf>

Southern Queensland Region



Enclosure 6 to
Rexit Submission No 4

Proposed Northern and Central Queensland Electoral Area Divide
Ceding the Electorates of Whitsunday and Mackay to the Central Queensland Electoral Area



Bill Bates
President
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53 Anderson Street
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6th October 2025

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
GPO Box 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001

**Subject: REXIT Submission No5 for QRC 2025 Electoral Boundary Review –
Overwhelming Regional Queensland**

Dear Secretary,

Representation or Subjugation

It was the New South Wales settlers of the Maranoa, Moreton Bay, Wide Bay and Burnett rallying against the overwhelming political influence and control of those in their colonial capital of Sydney that saw Queensland becoming a separate colony in 1859, a mere 35year after the establishment of Brisbane as penal settlement. 22years on, the people of Rockhampton and the Central Division submitted their first to petition for separation from their now Queensland colonial capital of Brisbane.

Their final, colonial petition of 1890 (<https://reefstate.au/1890Petition.php>) solicited more than 7,000 signatures (limited to males over 21year) at a time when the population of the Central Division was little more than 50,000. Despatched to Great Britain in 1890, for presentation to Queen Victoria, the petitioners asserted the that the overwhelming political representation of the Southern Division was harsh and unequable. However, with move towards Federation already underway, the petition was not given the necessary consideration.

Federation and Statehood

Like all founding states, Queensland entered with a bicameral parliament. The Legislative Assembly comprised 72 elected members (MLAs) while the Legislative Council members were appointed by the governor and served for life or till, they

resigned. Initially, there were 41MLCs, though the number fluctuated between 35 and 44 during the 22 years before it was abolished.

108,548 voters were enrolled in the Queensland state election of 1902 to elect 72 MLAs. By the 1923 election, enrolled voters had increase to 449,087. Though the Legislative Council had been abolished in 1922, Legislative Assembly numbers remained at 72 till the 1932 election which ushered in a reduced parliament of 62 seats. The parliament was increased with the 1950 election to 75 seats with subsequent increases in 1960 to 78, 1972 to 82, 1986 to 89 and the last increase to 93 seats in 2017.

Demographic Shifts and Electorate Distribution Queensland Regions

For the first half of the 20th century the Queensland economy and industry was rooted in labour intensive agriculture and mining which facilitated a wide spread population. With mechanization, advanced by WWII, machines reduced the need for much of the manual labour while manufacturing saw a shift of labour to city factories. This was the first major shift in demographics, triggering the Hanlon Labor to introduced 'malapportionment' voting in 1949.

The system created four electorate zonings, metropolitan (areas about population centres) while diving the vast land mass of the state into three electoral areas, south east, northern and western. The premise was the retention of the political representation of rural and remote communities as population growth in major cities increased markedly. This change impacted equally on Brisbane and regional cities.

1949 ZONE ENROLMENTS

The enrolment certified for each zone and the respective quota of electors was as follows:

Zone	Enrolments	Number of Electorates	Quota of Electors
Metropolitan	259,094	25	10,795
South Eastern	262,469	29	9,373
Northern	100,054	11	9,696
Western	46,438	10	4,613

This change from a 'one vote, one value' voting system, implemented with the 1950 state election provided for the increase in the Brisbane parliament, from 62 to 75 seats. At the time there were 688,309 enrolled voters while the population of Queensland was about 1.2million with most residing in rural areas. In respect commonly identified Regional Areas, the distribution of political representation saw South East Queensland (SEQ) with 33 electorates, Wide Bay (WB) 6, Southern Down

and South West Queensland (SD/SW) 12, Central Queensland (CQ) 8 and North Queensland (NQ) 16.

1957 Change of Government

The Nicklin lead Country Party, in coalition the Liberal Party won the 1957 state election. While retaining the Malapportionment' voting system it reduced the zoning classifications from four to three, Metropolitan, Provincial Cities and Country. The subsequent redistribution increased the Brisbane parliament from 75 to 78 seats and the boundary changes were implement with the 1960 state election.

In 1960 there were 813,584 enrolled voters while the population of Queensland was about 1.5million. Through the Regional Areas, the distribution of political representation saw SEQ increase by 6 electorates to 39, WB retained its 6, SD/SW lost an electorate reduced to 11, CQ retained 8 while NQ lost 2electorates, falling to 14 since the 1950 election. The number of electorates of SEQ now equalled that of all Regional Areas.

Bjelkemander

Replacing Frank Nicklin as the leader of the Country, Joh Bjelke-Petersen lead the Country-Liberal Coalition to victory in 1969 and set about revamping the Malapportionment' voting system. The 1971 redistribution reintroduced the four-zone system and increased the number of seats in the Brisbane parliament from 78 to 82. This was the start of an era when malapportionment was 'perfected' for political advantage and the term 'Bjelkemander' was coined.

The state was divided into four zones, South East, Provincial Cities, County and Western and Northern. The South East Zone, encompassed Brisbane and surrounding areas while Provincial Cities included nine major centres, with Cairns having two electorates as did Rockhampton while Townsville had three. The rural Country Zone was primarily of areas about the length of the Great Dividing Range while the Western and Northern Zone incorporated the remaining rural and outback areas, west of the Great Dividing Range

1971 ZONE ENROLMENTS

The enrolment certified for each zone and the respective quota of electors was as follows:

Zone	Number of Electorates	Quota of Electors
South East	47	13,225
Provincial Cities	13	12,252
Country	15	9,627
Western/Far-Northern	7	8,462

The 1971 redistribution was implemented with the 1972 state election with 997,489 enrolled voters while the population of Queensland approached 2million. Through the Regional Areas, the distribution of political representation saw SEQ increase by 5 electorates to 44, WB retained its 6, SD/SW lost 2 electorates reduced to 9, CQ gained an electorate to total 9 while NQ retained 14, compared to the 1960 election. The number of electorates of SEQ now exceeded that of all Regional Areas combine, 44 to 38.

Return of 'One Vote one Value'

The 1985 redistribution restored the 'one vote, one value' voting system and provided the increase of the Brisbane Parliament from 82 to 89seats. The addition of seven electorates resulted in a major redrawing of electoral boundaries which were incorporated with the 1986 State election.

At the time of the 1986 state election with 1,563,294 enrolled voters, the population of Queensland approached 2.9million. Through the Regional Areas, the distribution of political representation saw SEQ increase by 6 electorates to 50, WB, SD/SW and CQ retained their respective 6, 9 and 9 electorates while NQ gained 1 for a total of 15, compared to the 1972 election.

The number of electorates of SEQ now exceeded that of all Regional Areas combine by 11, 50 to 39. The development and urbanization of the Gold and Sunshine Coast to the 'coming of age' of Brisbane in the global economy.

Diminishment of Regional Area Political Representation

The 2017 redistribution provided for a 4seat increase in the Brisbane parliament to 93 seats, the first increase in more than 30years. The redrawn of electoral boundaries were implemented with the 2017 election with 3,229,536 enrolled voters while the population of Queensland approached 5million.

Through the Regional Areas, the distribution of political representation saw SEQ increase by 12 electorates to 62, WB retained its 6, SD/SW lost 3 electorates reduced to 6, CQ declined by 4 to only 5 while NQ only lost one electorate falling to 14, compared to the 1986 election. The number of electorates of SEQ exceeded that of all Regional Areas combine, 62 to 31.

Wide Bay Anomaly

Since the 1923 the Electoral Area of Wide Bay has had 6 electorates with the only exception being 1929 when it had 7. This consistency was not the result electoral enrolment numbers of the Wide Bay Region keeping pace with the District Average. Rather the Wide Bay Electoral Area was routinely distorted seeing areas ceded to the

Central Queensland Electoral Area in one direct while gaining areas of the Central Queensland Electoral Area in another. If this distortion is to continue, it would be reasonable the name of the Electorate Area designator of Wide Bay be changed to a more generic identifier.

Changes in Regional Area Electorate Numbers 1923-2017

The Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast were little more than weekend getaway destinations till the 1970s and as such not specific Electoral Areas. For uniformity purposes, Gold Coast, Ipswich, Brisbane - Gold Coast, Brisbane South, Brisbane North, Brisbane-Sunshine Coast, Sunshine Coast Electoral Areas have combined under a single designator SEQ.

The table below highlights the change in distribution of electorates across the Queensland Regional Areas at the elections **prior** and **after** changes in the number of seats in the Brisbane parliament

	1923	1929	1932	1947	1950	1957	1960	1969	1972	1983	1986	2015	2017
NQ	15	14	12	11	16	15	14	14	14	14	15	14	14
CQ	10	10	6	7	8	10	8	8	9	9	9	5	5
SD/SW	15	14	11	10	12	11	11	11	9	9	9	6	6
WB	6	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
SEQ	26	27	27	28	33	33	39	39	44	44	50	58	62
	72	72	62	62	75	75	78	78	82	82	89	89	93

Since the 1929 election, SEQ electorates have increased from 37.5 % of all electorates to 67%. There is no reason to suspect that this trend will change anytime soon with the continuing fall in regional infrastructure and service investment.

While regional Queensland has been the beneficiary of post-Covid movements of people from Victoria and New South Wales and the mass migration that have made our various state capital less 'liveable', that trend has slowed rapidly as the 'housing crisis' extended across the nation.

Continuing Diminishment of Regional Area Political Representation

The 'economy of scale' will necessitate greater investment in the nations' capital city conurbations. In the instance of Queensland, 'infilling' will centre on the Gold Coast, Brisbane and Sunshine Coast corridor. Accordingly, we can expect SEQ Electoral Area population and enrolled voter number rate outpace those of Regional Queensland.

Since the 1986 election, SEQ electorates have increased from 56.2% of all electorates to 67%. It would not be unreasonable to expect that by 2050, that figure will be approaching 75%.

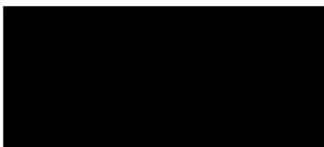
The current 'malapportionment' of the Large Area Allowance, amounts to about 0.7 of the District Average and is of no consequence to the alleviating the in-balance in Regional Area Political Representation. It is, in effect a compromising of the 'one vote, one value' voting system for zero benefit. Though it may provide some sense of appeasement to regional leaders and voters.

With adherence to the 'one vote, one value' voting system human involvement in the redistribution is a pointless distraction. For all intention purpose a computer algorithm could generate the boundaries for the promulgated number of electorates three months prior to every scheduled election to a tolerance of + of – 0.5%. Allocating electorate numerical designators would eliminate another distraction to the process.

Rexit Australia Inc. suggest that the Queensland Redistribution Commission:

- a. adheres to the principles of 'one vote, one value';
- b. seeks to remove the last vestige of 'malapportionment with the elimination of the Large Area Allowances;
- c. abolishes all Electoral Area designators;
- d. treats the entire state a single Electoral Area;
- e. recommends the development a computer algorithm to deliver the required redistributions; and
- f. seek approval for redistributions to be generated three months prior to each election.

Kind regards,



Bill Bates
President
Rexit Australia Inc.

