

From: Eugene Bajkowski
Sent: Friday, 5 August 2011 3:27 PM
To: Elections
Subject: Submission re. proposed changes to ACT Legislative Assembly electoral boundaries
Attachments: ACT Electoral Commission JDB Gunghalin Submission.doc

From: Jolanta Danuta Bajkowski

Canberra 5, August 2011

Submission re. proposed changes to ACT Legislative Assembly electoral boundaries

The ACT Electoral Commission

elections@act.gov.au

Dear Mr. Green

Dear Commissioners,

I am a long-time resident of Braddon and I thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposals. Of the two proposals, I believe the first – the one that retains the integrity of Canberra's Inner North — is by far the very much better. I also wholly endorse and support the Submissions made to ACT Electoral Commission on this subject by the Turner Residents' Association and by my husband Eugene Andrew Bajkowski.

First of all, the Inner North of Canberra has been an integrated, cohesive community for many decades, while Gungahlin has not. Bike paths, bus routes, Haig Park, all cross Northbourne Avenue. We see ourselves as "Inner North" residents – it's a term that's been around for as long as I can remember and I have lived with my family in Braddon since 1975. Braddon already was a long-established community at that time. We brought up our family here. We have many common community interests on both sides of Northbourne Avenue. Our son lives in Turner in the house in which his Grandparents lived and of which he is a co-owner.

Splitting us between two electorates seems unnatural and it is difficult to see what useful purpose it might possibly serve. There is another reason: the best way of redistributing boundaries would minimise moves of suburbs in and out of electorates, as population changes occur. In the second proposal, as Gungahlin grows and expands, surely Turner, O'Connor and Lyneham would before long have to be moved back to join their other inner North neighbours in Molonglo? This would be disruptive for people living there.

Therefore I support the first proposal, in which Crace and Palmerston would be transferred from Molonglo to Ginninderra.

Yours sincerely,

Jolanta Bajkowski