From: Robert Mair
Sent: Thursday, 5 May 2011 5:10 PM
To: Elections
Subject: ACT Electoral Boundaries

Dear Sirs,

I wish to lodge an objection to the proposed new electoral boundaries involving the exorcism of the suburbs of Palmerston and Crace from the Molonglo Electorate to the Ginninderra Electorate.

The basis of my objection is that these suburbs including Nicholls are an integral part of the Gungahlin district in the Molonglo Electorate and as such do not fit into the Ginninderra Electorate. It would be necessary for Ginninderra members to give different emphasis to these suburbs as any problems are ostensibly Gungahlin based and as such unique to Gungahlin. These suburbs are physically separate from Ginninderra by both a green belt and the Barton highway, a main thoroughfare. The focus of these suburbs is also towards the central district of the Gungahlin Town Centre and in no way can be linked to any happenings in the Ginninderra Electorate.

I regard this proposal as another piecemeal attempt to artificially adjust boundaries to try to maintain the strange tripartite electoral system of five, five and seven member electorates. This original electoral system is unfortunately restricted by the inability of the ACT to increase the total number of members in the Assembly when the number of ACT voters is rapidly rising. Surely one sure answer is to increase both the total number of electoral members and the number of ACT electorates. If this cannot occur due to Federal restrictions, then why not increase the number of ACT electorates within the existing total member level and have four electorates of three members and one electorate of five members. I feel sure that smaller electorates could be adequately catered for by three members. This is of course still better than the single member federal electorate model.

Yours faithfully

Robert Mair

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