



Southern Downs
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Our Ref: DK:MES

6 August 2015

**Please address all
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Research Director
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Parliament House
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Dear Sir

**Re: Submission - Electoral (Redistribution Commission) and Another Act
Amendment Bill 2015**

I refer to your letter dated 22 July 2015 calling for submissions on the Electoral (Redistribution Commission) and Another Act Amendment Bill 2015 introduced into Parliament by Mr Ian Walker MP.

The matter was discussed by Council at its General Meeting held on 29 July 2015 where it was resolved to make the following submission on the proposed legislation:-

1. Council objects to any boundary changes to the State Government seat also known as the 'Southern Downs' which would increase the area or population size of the electorate on the grounds that Council is concerned that there is an increasing dominance of population east of the Great Dividing Range and potentially less representation of regional areas.
2. Council believes that State electorate boundaries need to be based on communities of interest and geographical features allowing for a variation of population in each of up to 25% as it is easier for State Governments to represent and provide services in suburban locations with more homogeneous access and proximity to education, health, transport, welfare and recreational facilities, whereas those in country areas which distances, the number of school communities and issues affecting the local population is more diverse in comparison.

Yours faithfully



David Keenan
Chief Executive Officer