**COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL ACT (No. 2) 1973**

**No. 38 of 1974**

An Act relating to the Distribution of the States into Electoral Divisions.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen, the Senate and the House of Representatives of Australia, as follows:—

**Short title and citation.**

**1.** (1) This Act may be cited as the *Commonwealth Electoral Act (No.* 2*)* 1973.

(2) The *Commonwealth Electoral Act* 1918-1966, as amended by the *Commonwealth Electoral Act* 1973, is in this Act referred to as the Principal Act.

(3) The Principal Act, as amended by this Act, may be cited as the *Commonwealth Electoral Act* 1918-1973.

(4) Section 1 of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act* 1973 is amended by omitting sub-section (3).

**Commencement**

**2.** This Act shall come into operation on a date to be fixed by Proclamation.

**3.** (1) Section 19 of the Principal Act is repealed and the following section substituted:

**Matters to be considered in distribution of a State.**

“19. In making any proposed distribution of a State into Divisions, the Distribution Commissioners shall give due consideration, in relation to each proposed Division, to—

(a) community of interests within the Division, including economic, social and regional interests;

(b) means of communication and travel within the Division;

(c) the trend of population changes within the State;

(d) the physical features of the Division; and

(e) existing boundaries of Divisions and Subdivisions,

and subject thereto the quota of electors shall be the basis for the distribution, and the Distribution Commissioners may adopt a margin of allowance, to be used whenever necessary, but in no case shall the quota be departed from to a greater extent than one-tenth more or one-tenth

less.”.

(2) The section inserted in the Principal Act by sub-section (1) shall come into operation on the date on which this Act comes into operation.

**Redistribution,**

**4.** Section 25 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from paragraph (b)of sub-section (2) the word “one-fifth” (wherever occurring) and substituting the word “one-tenth”.

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