

G'day

I hope all ok in these challenging times.

As a voter in WA, I have some questions for this review panel.

1. PROPORTIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF UPPER HOUSE REPRESENTATION

1.1 WA population 2.7m(ref ABS 30/9/20)

1.2 Perth Metro Region population 2.1m(ref ABS 30/06/20(77.8%))

1.3 WA Regional population 0.6m(22.2%)

1.4 36 seats distributed in 6 Regions with 6 seats each(3 regions for metro and 3 regions for regional country)

1.5 Based on above population distribution there should be $.778 \times 36 = 28$ seats for the metro area.

1.5.1 To allow for a "fair" regional country representation, there could be some deloading allowed for

1.5.2 Thus the possibility of having 2 upper regions(12 seats) representing 33.3% of seats would be a fairer representative distribution

1.6 This would allow for 4 Metro regions ie 24 seats or 66.7% and 2 regions(33.3%) for country regions

1.7 Thus Metro gains one region and country loses one

2. METHOD OF CASTING VOTE FOR UPPER HOUSE CANDIDATES

2.1 The method of selecting only ONE party/candidate above the line and voting for all parties/candidates below the line is unrealistic and undemocratic

2.2 Most voters just select the easy option of voting for ONE party/candidate above the line

2.3 It would be far better to follow the federal senate voting protocol of
Up to SIX parties/candidates above the line
A minimum of 12 parties/candidates below the line

2.4 This then allows for a better representation as it way way to onerous to ask for voters to vote IN ORDER up to 45 or so candidates

3. MINIMUM PRIMARY VOTE PERCENTAGE

3.1 It is ridiculous that candidates can receive way less than 1% of the primary vote and still get elected.

3.2 A fairer method(as in many jurisdictions including I believe the federal system) is to be a valid candidate, a minimum of 4% of the popular vote needs to be recorded.

3.3 This will then prevent the rorting(read undemocratic) system of minor parties/candidates getting elected to the upper house

Stay Safe

Regards

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