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The Secretary Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters **Parliament House** Canberra ACT 2600

14th August 2003

Dear Sir/Madam.

Inquiry into representation of the Northern Territory Re: & ACT in the House of Representatives

write with regard to the possible reduction of our representation for the Northern Territory in the House of Representatives, and wish to state that such a reduction will be viewed by Territorians as unfair and not within the spirit of representation for our area.

As I understand, the Northern Territory currently have two members of the House of Representatives and this may be reduced to one, subject to your Committee's findings.

The Territory is a multicultural and varied area, and our representation needs strength by numbers. This is especially the case as we now face exciting growth periods which will ensure population growth and the importance of our area in the Australian sphere.

I ask for your consideration of the need for Territorians to be fairly represented in the House of Representatives. Furthermore, I would appreciate your consideration of the fact that any reduction will slash our representation in half.

I love the Territory, it is an amazing place filled with many personalities, cultures, beliefs and, despite its small population, it is one of the key potential growth areas for the prosperity of Australia.

Please do not stifle our already small voice!

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Philip'R J Grice

Director

Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters Submission No. 21

Date Received 25/8/03

Secretary

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