



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Objection 273

Pat Evans

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## **Subject: Draft Redistribution plans to abolish the North Sydney electorate**

To the Australian Electoral Commission,

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed redistribution and the elimination of the federal seat of North Sydney.

My name is Pat Evans and I have lived in North Sydney (Willoughby and Middle Cove) since 2008 and previously I lived in Bradfield (Lindfield) for over 20 years. Before that I also lived in North Sydney (Camberay). In the proposed redistribution my current suburb is designated to be moved into the Bradfield electorate. Given my personal experience living in North Sydney and Bradfield, I can say these are totally different areas and very different types of communities. North Sydney has much more of a cosmopolitan, inner city feel than the leafy large houses and yards with a big focus on schools found in Bradfield. I lived in Bradfield when I had young children, but when they grew up I moved into North Sydney for a different type of lifestyle; closer to the services in North Sydney and closer to the city. Having the third largest business centre in North Sydney and a wide range of small businesses, makes North Sydney a very different community to Bradfield.

My day to day activities are centered in the North Sydney area and it is rare for me to head north into Bradfield. I am more likely to go to Lane Cove (part of North Sydney) than up the highway to Hornsby (part of Bradfield), if I need services outside of my immediate area.

I question the value of changing the seat of North Sydney solely on population numbers. Given the state government's growth plans for the four LGA's in North Sydney, this change seems a shortsighted step that does not consider growth projections for the next five years.

The sense of community and shared values is very strong in North Sydney. A recent example of this is the fact that the community made a massive, collective effort to find an independent candidate for North Sydney in 2022; and then get that independent candidate elected. Community efforts continued in 2023 and as a result North Sydney was one of the few electorates to vote YES for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament. This electorate has some history in electing independent candidates as Ted Mack, an independent, was the sitting member in North Sydney from 3/90 - 3/96.

The electorate of North Sydney has a long and proud history as one of the original federal electorates and as home to a Prime Minister and a Treasurer, as well as independent trailblazers.

I personally feel a strong connection to the North Sydney community and I fear that breaking this connection for me and so many in the electorate, will result in disengaged and almost disenfranchised citizens, who no longer care about creating better communities. The net result of this will be a loss to our community and our country.

I strongly oppose the draft proposal that abolishes the federal seat of North Sydney and I request that it remains as is.

Yours sincerely,  
Pat Evans  
Middle Cove 2068  
4 July 2024