



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 350

Wayne Gillespie

2 pages

8th July 2024

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ATTN: The NSW Redistribution Committee

RE: Draft Proposal to abolish the Federal seat of North Sydney in the proposed 2024 NSW redistribution

My name is Wayne Gillespie and our family have lived for twenty years in the suburb of Gladesville within the electorate of North Sydney. Our two children grew up in the area and attended local public primary and high schools. They also joined local sporting clubs across various disciplines of sporting endeavours. These details alone indicate the level of connection we have created with the families in our electorate.

I do not believe that the seat of North Sydney should be abolished because of the following views –

1. Population growth – the population across the electorate is growing rapidly and I do believe that the AEC's proposal has not taken this fully into account. An example of this is the recent state government changes to increase housing which would see 5900 new homes in the North Sydney electorate by 2029. If this is replicated across the four local government areas (LGA) then this will represent a significant increase in population. I believe that supporting our population is very important, housing is a basic human right and welcome this increase into the area, growing our electorate community.
In addition, it is my understanding that the North Sydney Council alone is expecting a 27% of population in their area by 2036 this represents 19,500 new residents in just one of the LGA's in our electorate. To forward plan this would indicate that the electorate would only have to be re-established in the future
2. Business community – It is of note that North Sydney is the third largest business centre in the country. This would suggest that it would be more important for these businesses to have access to a dedicated local member who represents the interests of their community. North Sydney has a total of 28,000 small to medium sized businesses and it has been indicated that their needs to not neatly overlap with those of the neighbouring electorates of Bradfield, Bennelong and Warringah
3. Community – North Sydney, feels to me to be a cohesive community. We ourselves participate in community groups, religious, sporting and environmental groups. It is with pride that I reside in an area that cohesively voted yes to the Indigenous Voice to Parliament in the 2023 referendum. Similarly, there is a history of independent representation within our community as well as the fact that historically our electorate has been around since the first federal elections some 123 years ago.

I believe that cultural diversity is valued in the community and with half of our population born overseas and a third speaking a language other than English in their homes, we are a community that has and is benefitting from this diversity.

With the aforementioned details noted I strongly oppose the draft proposal that the seat of North Sydney be abolished and request for it to remain intact.

Yours Faithfully



Wayne Gillespie