



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Objection 458

Victoria Davidson

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To: NSW Redistribution Committee  
Australian Electoral Commission

RE: Draft proposal to abolish the federal electorate of North Sydney

I am writing as I am very concerned about the draft proposal to abolish the federal seat of North Sydney. Since 2001 my husband and I have lived in this electorate and now currently live in Lane Cove where we have resided since 2006. In 2000 we established a business in Lane Cove which we still operate. All three of our children have attended the local public school and we have deep connections in our community. Additionally, our allied health business employs local residents and services the local community, here in Lane Cove.

North Sydney should remain as a federal seat for the following reasons:

1. Recent developments in St Leonards, Chatswood, Lane Cove and North Sydney have increased the population in the area with it expected to rise by a further 19,500 new residents by 2036 in the North Sydney LGA alone. NSW State government projections are for more than 24,000 new homes across the four LGAs comprising the electorate by 2029.
2. North Sydney has three major business districts in North Sydney, St Leonards and Chatswood as well as the thriving retail and commercial districts of Lane Cove and Crows Nest and industrial zones of Artarmon, Lane Cove North and Chatswood west. A dedicated member who understands the needs of these areas is essential for proper representation of these important business areas, allowing for comprehensive planning and insight. Dividing them between and absorbing them into three different Federal seats undervalues the importance of these districts and potentially creates circumstances where differing regimes may apply. As a business owner, I understand that the need for consistency and certainty is paramount.
3. North Sydney is a cohesive and engaged community: North Sydney is home to many environmental, humanitarian, religious and social groups all working together to improve our community. It is telling that we were one of the first electorates to stand up for independent representation in 2022, and one of the few to vote for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament in the 2023 referendum. We respect and value our cultural diversity, with half of our population born overseas and a third speaking a language other than English at home. And we are home to several active and competitive sports teams, including two of the largest community-based sporting organisations in the state.
4. The electorate of North Sydney is one of the 75 original federation divisions contested in Australia's first federal election 123 years ago. To abolish the seat strips Australia and NSW of part of its federation legacy.

The federal electorate of North Sydney should remain.

Thank you for your time.

Yours sincerely

Victoria Davidson