



Comment on objections 16

Gillian Miles

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From:
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I am writing as a long-term resident of the electorate of Higgins and I am worried that the proposed electoral amalgamation with Kooyong will be very detrimental for the area.

I feel this way for many reasons:

- our voice in Higgins will be diluted enormously when combined with such a large district. People in Kooyong could well have vastly different views about local issues, pertaining to where they live, which bear no resemblance to the issues in Higgins.
- As in the past, we need a local representative who can work with us closely on important issues and keep us informed of changes that are occurring. I can't see how one MP can effectively do that for multiple suburbs.
- Currently, with a local MP, we can approach them quite easily about issues that trouble us, as we have in fact fairly recently, over the expansion of Cabrini Hospital into our neighbourhood. An MP responsible for many districts is not going to have the time to hear, and act upon, everyone's concerns.
- Higgins is a unique area, with a long political history. It would be a dreadful shame to change that and just become part of a large, unwieldy and anonymous area.

I feel this is change for the sake of it and, perhaps, just a cost cutting exercise. Maybe some further thought could go into the effect it might have on the residents and, of course, the Member of Parliament, who might lose her job.

Yours faithfully,

Gillian Miles.