



Objection 41

Andy Tran

2 pages

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Higgins redistribution objection
Date: Friday, 7 June 2024 12:41:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Australian Federal Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Andy Tran
[Your Address]
[City, State, Postcode]
[Email Address]
[Phone Number]

To the Australian Electoral Commission,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Andy Tran, and I am writing to you with a heartfelt plea regarding the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins in Melbourne.

Higgins is not just a name on a map; it is a vibrant tapestry of community, history, and shared aspirations. Nestled within the heart of Stonnington, Higgins has been a cornerstone of our federal representation, providing a platform for our voices to be heard in the corridors of power. The AEC's proposal to merge Higgins into neighbouring electorates like Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne, while understandable in the context of balancing electoral representation, presents significant concerns that I feel compelled to address.

Firstly, the loss of representation for Higgins residents cannot be understated. The dilution of our collective voice would inevitably lead to less tailored representation. The unique needs and aspirations of the Higgins community, particularly those of Stonnington, risk being overshadowed by the broader priorities of larger, amalgamated electorates. This is not merely a matter of numbers; it is about the essence of democracy—ensuring that every community, no matter how small, has a clear and distinct voice in federal politics.

Higgins is steeped in a rich history and a unique community identity that binds us together. From the leafy streets of Toorak to the bustling markets of Prahran, our community has thrived on shared values and common goals. The proposed redistribution threatens to fragment this cohesive identity, scattering our communities into electorates with different priorities and concerns. Such a disruption would not only affect our sense of belonging but also undermine the collective efforts we have made over the years to build a strong, united community.

Moreover, the established relationships between Higgins residents and our current Member of Parliament are invaluable. These relationships have been nurtured over time, fostering trust and effective advocacy. The abolition of Higgins would disrupt these connections, potentially leading to a gap in services and a loss of momentum for ongoing local projects and initiatives. New representatives, unfamiliar with the specific needs and dynamics of our community, may not be able to provide the same level of support and advocacy that we currently enjoy.

Electoral confusion is another significant concern. The redistribution would inevitably lead to confusion among voters regarding their new electorates, polling places, and representatives. This confusion could result in decreased voter engagement and participation, undermining the very democratic process that the redistribution aims to uphold.

In Stonnington, we have already preselected candidates who we believe are well-equipped to stand up for our community's needs and aspirations. The abolition of Higgins would render these efforts moot, leaving us without the representation we have worked hard to secure.

In light of these concerns, I respectfully urge the AEC to reconsider the decision to abolish the seat of Higgins. Maintaining the current electoral structure is not merely about preserving boundaries on a map; it is about honouring the unique identity, history, and needs of the Higgins community. Our voices deserve to be heard, and our representation deserves to be maintained.

Thank you for considering my plea. I trust that the AEC will take into account the profound impact this decision would have on the residents of Higgins and will act in the best interest of our community.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Tran

Visit [this link](#) to stop these emails:

