



# Objection 71

Allan Harvey

2 pages

**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Higgins redistribution objection  
**Date:** Tuesday, 11 June 2024 8:23:35 AM

---

**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.

Subject: Objection to the Abolition of the Federal Electoral Seat of Higgins

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

I trust this message finds you well. My name is Allan Harvey, a resident of the Stonnington community within the federal electoral seat of Higgins in Melbourne. I am writing to express my profound concern and objection to the proposed abolition of the seat of Higgins as part of the recent redistribution efforts.

Higgins is more than just a demarcation on a map; it is a vibrant tapestry of history, culture, and community spirit. The proposal to merge Higgins into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne threatens to unravel this intricate weave, resulting in significant ramifications for its residents.

Firstly, the loss of representation is a pressing concern. The voice of Higgins and Stonnington residents will be diluted, reducing our influence in federal politics. This change could lead to less tailored representation for our local needs. Our community has long-standing residents and active community groups whose voices are integral to our political landscape. The abolition of Higgins would silence these voices, undermining the democratic principles that underpin our society.

Furthermore, the unique community identity and history of Higgins are at stake. Our electorate has a rich heritage, with a strong sense of belonging and shared values. The proposed changes would disrupt this identity, as communities are split and absorbed into different electorates with potentially different priorities. This fragmentation would not only erode our sense of community but also hinder our ability to address local issues effectively.

The established relationships between residents and our current Member of Parliament are another crucial aspect to consider. These relationships have been cultivated over time, fostering trust and understanding. Disrupting these connections could lead to a loss of advocacy and support for local projects and initiatives. Our representatives have a deep understanding of our community's needs, and their continuity is vital for the ongoing development and success of our region.

Moreover, the potential for electoral confusion cannot be overlooked. Voters may find themselves uncertain about their new electorates, polling places, and representatives. This confusion could lead to decreased voter engagement and participation, undermining the democratic process. It is essential that we maintain clarity and stability in our electoral system to ensure that all voices are heard and represented.

Finally, the impact on local projects and initiatives is a significant concern. Ongoing efforts to improve our community may lose momentum or be deprioritized under new

representatives unfamiliar with the specific needs of Higgins. Our community has worked hard to develop and implement projects that address our unique challenges and opportunities. The continuity of these efforts is crucial for our continued growth and prosperity.

In conclusion, I respectfully urge the Australian Electoral Commission to reconsider the decision to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. Maintaining the current electoral structure is essential for the benefit of Higgins residents. Our community's voice, identity, and ongoing projects depend on it. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Allan Harvey

-----  
[Redacted signature block]