



Objection 113

Andy

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Dear Redistribution Committee

I am writing to you to object to the proposed boundaries of the Federal Electoral Division of Wills, as per the proposed redistribution report released on 31 May 2024.

I strongly oppose the removal of parts of Oak Park, Pascoe Vale, Brunswick West and Glenroy from our electorate. I have recently moved into the Wills electorate from Clifton Hill (previously the Melbourne FEA), and have noticed the difference between these communities. Here in Coburg where I now live there is an strong connection to the Merri-bek Council area.

The central reasons I believe that these suburbs should not be removed from the electorate of Wills are:

1. These suburbs have a longstanding connection to the council of Merri-bek (formerly Moreland) having been a part of the Local Government Area. Residents currently access services via Merri-bek council - splitting up residents into two different electorates will minimise the representations that I can make on their behalf to council to ensure their concerns are addressed. If these draft proposals are adopted, two Members of Parliament will represent the same suburb within one Local Government Area - this is neither necessary nor the logical approach to take.
2. As a new and current resident of Coburg and a former resident of suburbs similar to which are being proposed to moved into Wills, I can attest that these communities are different and distinct. My strong view is that the community of Wills is more akin to Oak Park and Glenroy than Princess Hill or Fitzroy North.

As a resident of the Division of Wills, I regard the proposed changes to the Division of Wills as not demonstrative of our community's interests. I respectfully submit that the changes should be rejected.

Thank you for taking the time to look at this submission.

Andy