



Objection 134

Justin

2 pages

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 18 June 2024 4:17 PM
To: FedRedistribution - VIC
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Higgins redistribution objection
Categories: [REDACTED]

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

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

My name is Justin, and I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins in Melbourne. This proposal, which aims to redistribute and balance electoral representation due to population changes, involves merging Higgins into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne. As a resident of Stonnington, I am deeply concerned about the implications of this decision for our community.

Higgins is more than just a name on a map; it is a vibrant and distinct community with a rich history and a unique identity. The proposed abolition threatens to dilute the voice of Higgins residents, reducing our influence in federal politics and potentially leading to less tailored representation for our local needs. Stonnington, in particular, has long been a cornerstone of the Higgins electorate, and its residents have come to rely on the specific advocacy and support that our current representation provides.

The loss of representation for long-standing Higgins residents and community groups is a significant concern. The established relationships between residents and our current Member of Parliament are invaluable. These relationships ensure that our voices are heard, our needs are met, and our community's interests are prioritised. Disrupting these relationships by merging Higgins into other electorates could lead to a loss of momentum for ongoing local projects and initiatives that are crucial to our community's well-being.

Furthermore, the unique community identity of Higgins will be disrupted as our communities are split and absorbed into different electorates with potentially different priorities. This fragmentation could lead to a sense of disconnection and a lack of cohesive representation for the residents of Stonnington and other areas within Higgins.

Electoral confusion is another significant concern. Voters may find themselves uncertain about their new electorates, polling places, and representatives, leading to decreased voter engagement and participation. This confusion could undermine the democratic process and reduce the effectiveness of our electoral system.

In light of these concerns, I respectfully request that the Australian Electoral Commission reconsider the decision to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. Maintaining the current electoral structure is

essential for ensuring that the residents of Higgins, particularly those in Stonnington, continue to receive the tailored representation and advocacy that we have come to rely on.

Thank you for considering my objection. I trust that the AEC will take into account the importance of preserving the unique identity and representation of the Higgins electorate for the benefit of its residents.

Yours sincerely,

Justin

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