



Objection 142

Robert Angel

2 pages

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 19 June 2024 8:44 AM

To: FedRedistribution - VIC

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Higgins redistribution objection

Categories: [REDACTED]

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 Robert Angel, and I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins in Melbourne. As a resident of Prahran, a vibrant community within the Higgins electorate, I feel compelled to voice my concerns regarding this significant and, frankly, troubling proposal.

The AEC's plan to dissolve Higgins and merge it into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne is deeply unsettling for several reasons.

Firstly, the dilution of our representation is a grave concern. Higgins, and particularly Stonnington, has always had a unique voice in federal politics, one that is finely attuned to our local needs and aspirations. The proposed abolition threatens to erode this voice, reducing our influence and leading to less tailored representation. The residents of Higgins have long relied on a dedicated and focused representation that understands our specific issues, from local infrastructure to community services. The loss of this direct representation is simply unacceptable.

Moreover, the community identity of Higgins is one that has been carefully cultivated over decades. This electorate has produced notable figures such as two Prime Ministers and a Federal Treasurer, cementing its place in the annals of Australian political history. To dismantle Higgins and disperse its residents across five different electorates would be to disregard the rich tapestry of our shared history and community bonds. It is not just a matter of political lines on a map, but the disruption of a cohesive community with a strong, united identity.

The disruption of established political relationships is another pressing issue. Our current Member of Parliament has built meaningful connections with constituents, advocating for our needs and supporting local initiatives. The proposed redistribution would sever these relationships, causing confusion and potentially leading to a decline in the quality of representation and services. It is imperative that the residents of Higgins retain their ability to engage with a representative who is intimately familiar with their concerns.

Electoral confusion is yet another inevitable consequence of this proposal. Voters would be left grappling with new electorates, polling places, and representatives, which could lead to decreased voter

engagement and participation. The importance of a clear and consistent electoral structure cannot be overstated in maintaining a healthy democratic process.

Lastly, the impact on local projects and initiatives is a significant concern. Higgins is home to numerous ongoing projects that are vital to our community's well-being and development. The introduction of new representatives unfamiliar with these projects could result in a loss of momentum or deprioritisation, ultimately harming the community.

In light of these points, I urge the AEC to reconsider the decision to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. The importance of maintaining the current electoral structure for the benefit of Higgins residents cannot be overstated. Our community deserves to retain its distinct voice and representation in federal politics.

Thank you for considering my objection. I look forward to your response and hope for a favourable reconsideration of this proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Angel

Visit this link to stop these emails:

