



Objection 377

Sarah Sandaver

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OBJECTION

We are residents within the electorate of Higgins, and our family has been so for over 50 years.

We object to the proposal to abolish the federal electorate of Higgins, and to redistribute its electorate.

The electorate of Higgins is an historic electorate covering an electorate with a lot of commonality such as heritage homes and community buildings, trees, and gardens, and typically has representation by long standing federal members who themselves have long lived in the electorate and are well known. Residents in the area typically spend their whole lives residing in, going to school in, and spending their daily lives the full Higgins area including Prahran, South Yarra, Toorak, Malvern, Malvern East, Glen Iris, Ashburton, Carnegie and Murrumbeena. It is a real community and has been this way historically and in many places for over a century.

We agree with and repeat the many objections raised by our community representatives such as the Stonnington Council and our former federal member Katie Allen:

1/ We want strong local representation in an area that has long been aligned as a community. We do not want the local area fragmented across 5 federal members of Parliament. We do not want weakened fragmented representation in Canberra.

2/ The strong community public interest and history is important to preserve, with its historical homes and gardens, local Stonnington Council and its history as a seat of Prime Ministers and Treasurers.

3/ The proposed re-distribution severely fragments local communities of interest represented by LGAs, suburbs and localities.

4/ The proposed re-distribution ignores existing physical and geographical boundaries such as freeways, arterial roads, and waterways (including major river).

5/ The proposed re-distribution fails to identify and align with economic and social groupings.

6/ The proposed re-distribution erases deep historical and cultural connections between the Stonnington community and the Higgins electorate.

7/ The proposed re-distribution gives rise to confusion and uncertainty among Stonnington residents who will be divided and dispersed among 5 different federal electorates.

8/ The proposed re-distribution fails to recognise the importance of Higgins electorate to the local identity of residents and its importance to their connection and ongoing engagement in the national democratic system.

Thank you for your consideration.

Objector -
Sarah Sandaver

