



Objection 453

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Objection to the Proposed Redistribution of Victoria

I endorse the majority of the committee's decisions in the draft proposal, especially the partial reorientation of Menzies and Deakin into north-south seats rather than east-west.

The decision to push Menzies into Box Hill is the best possible outcome here and solves the division of the area between four separate electorates previously. I note that in both this redistribution and the prior redistribution, many suggestions advocated for Deakin taking in Box Hill. The committee correctly reasoned Doncaster (Menzies) to be better connected and form a stronger community of interest with Box Hill than Ringwood (Deakin). Beyond the fact that Deakin is better suited to the eastern areas of Manningham than the urban areas of Menzies are, stretching a Deakin from Box Hill to the foot of the Dandenong Ranges would be ridiculous. Doncaster/Box Hill and Ringwood are also better off being placed in two separate seats as they are now, given both from distinct hubs in the east.

While I would not have decided to abolish Higgins, it is an acceptable choice given its slow population growth and necessitates the above changes. I understand that Kooyong, due to taking in parts of Higgins, is very close to the upper limit of the allowed tolerance in projected electors, but I object to the moving of a small part of the Boroondara LGA to Menzies. The LGA border between Whitehorse and Boroondara makes for a much more cohesive boundary, and Melbourne and/or Chisholm's share of Higgins can be increased slightly to allow for Kooyong to take the entirety of Boroondara.