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Comment on suggestion 35

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [FedRedistribution - NSW](#)
Subject: A Submission regarding proposals for an AEC redistribution concerning the Federal electorate of Warringah.
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In light of hearing that the Liberal Party have suggested abolishing the division of Warringah, I wish to submit a submission in support of retaining the division of Warringah.

It is unsurprising that the Liberals would call for Warringah to be abolished, a call they would never have made when it was a safe Liberal seat.

Warringah has been a division since 1922, and is one of the few electorates with an indigenous name, that translates to “rain”, “waves, or “sea”. The origins of the name and its recognisability are important culturally, and go to the heart of what binds Warringah in a community of interests. We are “girt” by sea to the east, Sydney Harbour to the south, with water and/ or beach suburbs of Manly, Freshwater, North and South Curl Curl, some of Dee Why, Mosman and Neutral Bay included. These physical features are a common, shared feature of the electorate, which are best managed and maintained by common political management.

The division also shares a community of interest economically and socially. Travel and transport corridors between the beaches, Mosman, and the city, via the Spit Bridge and Military road are another common feature binding the various suburbs within Warringah.

Manly Selective Campus at North Curl Curl should not be removed from Warringah or separated from Manly, and is a valuable learning resource for the area.

So, in terms of increasing the voter numbers, first of all it should be pointed out that the population within Warringah is approximately 156,757, which indicates that it is growing, and the voting numbers will increase with time, as the younger inhabitants age. For the purposes of increasing voter numbers at the time of this redistribution, there appears to be a number of practical and logical ways to do this with slight boundary changes.

Extending Warringah north to the Dee Why Lagoon (currently in Mackellar) would align the boundaries with the State seat of Manly’s boundaries. This would remove the confusion that occurs between Federal and State boundaries, that I have witnessed when manning polling booths at election time. This move would definitely help voters.

As previously mentioned, our transport corridor via the Spit Bridge, Spit and Military roads, is unique, and extending Warringah west to the Warringah freeway would unite sections of Cremorne and Neutral Bay that are currently arbitrarily divided. It would make sense to have the Warringah freeway as a defining and clear boundary to the electorate of Warringah. These areas (currently with the division of North Sydney) have more areas of commonality with the rest of Cremorne, Neutral Bay and Mosman, than they do with North Sydney. North Sydney which covers Artarmon, St Leonard’s Chatswood, Hunters Hill, Gladesville and Lane Cove, could easily extend further west, or north to include Roseville, which are much better suited to its demographic and shared interests.

Warringah has a wonderful sense of community, much of it built through the actions of our current Member of Parliament, Zali Steggall, and her hard working team. When the Liberal Party held Warringah this was not the case. The majority of voters in Warringah are passionate about the sense of caring and community that has been created here, and proud to say that we live in this electorate. We have set the standard as to how a community can come together and how integrity and common values can achieve so many positive outcomes.

We will be distraught if Warringah is abolished or its unique nature and values are destroyed by an electoral amalgamation.

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