



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Objection 182

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2 pages

# OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED 2023-24 NSW FEDERAL REDISTRIBUTION

1<sup>st</sup> JULY 2024

ATTENTION: AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION (AEC)

RE: NORTH SYDNEY

I write regarding the proposed abolition of the federal seat of North Sydney.

Firstly, thank you for the role you play in providing an equitable and stable democratic process for Australia. It is something Australians take for granted – we should not.

I have read the supporting documentation and appreciate the constant need to rebalance the numbers of electors and therefore the need to change the boundaries of electorates to maintain equitable outcomes for all voters.

However, the abolition of the North Sydney electorate appears to be a sub-optimal solution.

## HISTORY

- North Sydney is a federation seat, with 123 years of continuous history representing the area. Only a dozen or so of the original NSW seats remain.
- North Sydney members have included a Prime Minister, a Treasurer and an Attorney-General, to name a few of the celebrated representatives.
- The original seat was vast, covering the north-eastern corner of Sydney and all the Central Coast and beyond.

## SIGNIFICANCE

- At its core is one of Australia's major CBDs. That alone requires its unique identity to be represented in its own right.
- The area is densely populated, a trend that will only increase with the focus on adding dwelling stock to well-located areas.
- The area is highly desirable due to its many positive attributes including proximity to nature, employment, and the overall quality of life. Therefore, the population will only continue to increase. For example, North Sydney Council expects ~20,000 new residents over the next decade, and that is only in that LGA.

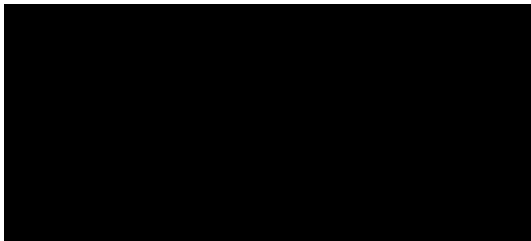
- In contrast to the size of the original electorate, the current area is one of the nation's smallest, yet it still meets the population quota.

## SOLUTIONS

The current electorate is small, so if the population quota is a genuine concern, then a small boundary change to include more people is a much neater, simpler solution. The area of the Mosman LGA would be a logical addition given the nexus and community alignment along the Cammeray/Neutral/Cremorne/Mosman corridor. This also tidies up the southern end of the seat of Warringah and provides better opportunity to work with the borders of Warringah, MacKellar, Bradfield and Bennelong to better align communities with their Federal seats.

North Sydney is one of Australia's founding electorates. It is an area of major significance for Sydney, New South Wales and Australia. Its abolition would be an unfortunate and avoidable blight on our proud democracy, particularly when there are better options available to resolve the necessary boundary changes.

Yours sincerely



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