Objection 297

Kyle Patterson

2 pages

The Australian Electoral Commission (Attn: NSW Redistribution Secretariat)
Locked Bag 4007
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear AEC

I am opposed to the proposed abolition of the north Sydney Federal electorate for several reasons;

1. The North Sydney Federal electorate has a spine in the form of the Pacific Highway and the North Shore railway line. These major thoroughfares create a community of interests and abiding connection, such as schools, businesses, sporting clubs and local government areas. Chopping this longstanding and established community into three pieces makes no sense if this distinct community is to have its voice heard in Canberra.

2. Transferring the North Sydney CBD into the Warringah Federal electorate is akin to mixing oil and water. Having lived in both areas, I can attest that there are few similarities and so many differences. Middle Harbour and the Spit Bridge are more than physical barriers. They define two very different regions.

3. The abolition proposes to disconnect the North Sydney CBD from the Chatswood CBD and the growing St. Leonards district. All three will face similar challenges as population density and transport hubs change rapidly over the coming decade. The issues these areas face need a single voice and advocate in Canberra. Yes, urban development is increasingly a Federal responsibility.

4. The premise for the abolition, being that the population of the North Sydney electorate is below par, will not stand the test of time. The rapid development of tower apartment blocks and the new NSW planning laws to encourage density along public transport lines will soon see a population boom in the region.

5. Surely a simpler outcome is to add the southern section of Bradfield to North Sydney, in order to increase the catchment of North Sydney to your required level. This lower Bradfield area has strong social and economic ties to the Chatswood CBD.

I trust my submission will be taken into account when a final decision is made.

Regards

Kyle Patterson