



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Objection 456

Robert A Gee

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9 July 2024

The NSW redistribution Committee  
[www.aec.gov.au/redistributions/2023/nsw/objections.html](http://www.aec.gov.au/redistributions/2023/nsw/objections.html)

Dear Sir/Ma'am

**Re: The Proposed Redistribution of the NSW North Sydney Federal Seat in 2024**

My name is Robert A Gee and I have been a resident of Lane Cove, which is within North Sydney, since 1998. Having led a fairly peripatetic professional life internationally, Lane Cove has now become my home and the one place I have lived longest in my entire life – I am 77 years of age. Whilst I have lived here, I have been instrumental in a number of significant civil infrastructure projects which have brought benefits to my local neighbours and to others who visit Sydney and its environs. All of which has given me a strong affinity with the area.

I do not believe that the seat of North Sydney should be abolished because:

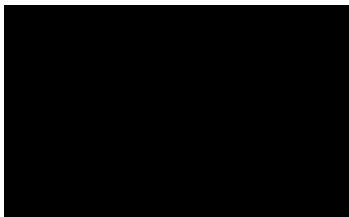
1. The historical significance of the federal seat of North Sydney is part of our community's identity. North Sydney is one of the 75 original federation divisions contested in Australia's first federal election 123 years ago
2. North Sydney is a cohesive and engaged community: it is home to many environmental, humanitarian, religious and social groups all working together to improve our community. It says something that we were one of the first electorates to stand up for independent representation in 2022, and one of the few to vote for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament in the 2023 referendum. We respect and value our cultural diversity, with half of our population born overseas, me included, and a third speaking a language other than English at home.
3. Our business community: As home to the third-largest business centre in the country, I strongly believe that North Sydney's businesses and industrial zones deserve the focus of a dedicated local member. North Sydney has a total of 28,000 small to medium size businesses whose needs do not overlap entirely with those in the seats of Bennelong (wherein Lane Cove would be located), Warringah or Bradfield.

4. Population growth: The population right across North Sydney is growing rapidly but apparently the AEC's proposal does not account for this growth. I'm led to believe that the NSW State Government plans to see 5,900 new homes built in the North Sydney LGA alone by 2029. If that growth is replicated across the four LGAs currently contained within the federal seat that would see more than 24,000 new homes built across the North Sydney community.

In addition to this, North Sydney Council is believed to be expecting 19,500 new residents to move into that LGA by 2036. This is a 27% increase in just one of the four LGAs that currently make up the seat of North Sydney and indicates that it is highly likely that to proceed with abolishing our seat now would be completely counterproductive, as arguably the case to re-establish the seat, come 2029, will be more than obvious.

In summary therefore, I do not believe that the proposed abolition of the Federal seat of North Sydney is justified or appropriate given the above factors. I request for the seat to remain intact with minimal changes to accommodate changes in overall numbers of electors in NSW.

Yours faithfully,



Robert A Gee