



Objection 498

Susan Hill
1 page

From:

FedRedistribution - NSW

Subject: Objection to the plans to abolish the federal seat of North Sydney in the proposed 2024 NSW redistribution

Date: Wednesday, 10 July 2024 1:42:34 PM

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Dear Committee,

I am writing in objection to the recommendation of the Redistribution Committee which has the effect of abolishing the Federal Division of North Sydney.

My name is Susan Hill and I am a resident in the Federal seat of North Sydney. I have lived in Lane Cove since 1979 and have a very strong connection and commitment to the communities within this electorate including involvement in the arts, sporting groups, bushcare as well as voluntary work - and I shop at LaneCove, Chatswood and CrowsNest. Basically all my pursuits are east of the Lane Cove River. I do not believe that the seat of North Sydney should be abolished for the following reasons:

- 1. North Sydney is a cohesive and engaged community. It is home to many environmental, humanitarian, religious and social groups who all work together to improve our community all of which I deeply care about. It is telling that we were one of the first electorates to standup for independent representation in 2022 and one of the few electorates to vote for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament in the 2023 Referendum. We are an electorate who respect and value our cultural diversity
- 2. Flawed demographic projections/ failure to recognise significant population growth: the population of our electorate is growing rapidly yet I note that the AEC's proposal does not account for this growth ie. the NSW state government plans to see 5900 new homes built in the North Sydney LGA alone by 2029 with equally rapid growth plans in the other LGA's within the Federal seat.

3. The Community of Interest test:

The proposed boundary redistribution fails the community of interest test. The boundaries as proposed sever the highly connected and integrated communities of Lane Cove, Greenwich, Crows Nest, North Sydney, Wollstonecraft, Waverton dispersing them in 3 directions, grafting them to electorates where there is no community of interest at all. I the case of the new proposed boundaries of Bennelong, there is no community of interest between my community of Lane Cove and Denistoneor North Epping at the far western extremity of the Division of Bennelong.

- 4. Our business community: as home to the third largest business centre in the country I also believe that North Sydney's businesses and industrial zones deserve the focus of a dedicated local member. North Sydney has 28,000 small to medium sized businesses whose needs do not overlap entirely with those of the newly proposed areas of Bradfield, Bennelong, or Warringah.
- 5. 123 years of history: 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.

I strongly oppose the draft proposal that the seat of North Sydney be abolished and request for it to remain intact.

Furthermore I fully support our local member Kylea Tink's alternative proposal (overall a less disruptive solution)

Yours faithfully Susan Hill