



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 527

Derry Thomas

1 page

I am opposed to the changes proposed move much of the area of Epping and North Epping from the electorate of Bennelong to Berowra.

I have been a resident of North Epping for over 40 years, during which North Epping has been part of the Bennelong electorate. So I believe I have a strong affinity with the nature of Bennelong and its history. This will be lost to me if North Epping is moved to a different electorate.

During that same time I have endured the difficulties that have occurred in trying to keep Epping together at the local, state and federal levels. The recent move the much of Epping into the Parramatta local government area has alienated the residents of North Epping from the rest of the Epping populace.

This proposal will split Epping across two federal divisions and remove us from the areas of Eastwood, Ryde and Marsfield, areas which North Epping and Epping have a natal historical affinity.

We have the benefit of the local federal local office in Epping which has allowed Epping residents to develop strong relationships with our local members. The Berowra office is located in Hornsby where the local member has to deal with a physically much larger electorate that extends to Wisemans Ferry and the Hawkesbury River. This change will make it much more difficult for any Berowra member to serve the Epping community in the same way as Bennelong members can. Also the nature of the Bennelong electorate is very different to that of Bennelong. There are large areas of hobby farms, rural and semi-rural areas and large expanses of National parks and waterways. These land uses are largely absent from the current area of Bennelong and present very different types of needs and government requirements. They are very dissimilar to the needs and requirements of the suburb of Epping and will direct funds and attention away from the Epping area.

We will have a diminished level of service in an Epping township that struggles to keep a unified level of government attention across single political boundaries.

For these reasons I want all Epping 2121 to remain in the electorate of Bennelong

Derry Thomas
North Epping

