



**THE FEDERAL
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NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 640

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Objection to changing the boundary of Bennelong to exclude Epping and North Epping.

I am a long-term resident of Epping and have witnessed ongoing struggles to maintain Epping as a cohesive suburb within multiple government areas.

1. Epping is on the fringes of all the electorates. Splitting the suburb of Epping across 2 federal electorates, given the years of work to keep single-seat representation in the Epping Town Centre across the 3 levels of Government, is not in the best interests of the local people.
2. Epping and North Epping have been part of Bennelong since the 1970s. The proposed change of moving the border of Berowra over the M2 and crossing into the suburb does not make sense. Epping is certainly more in line with the current demographic of Bennelong – “**Inner Metropolitan** – situated in capital cities and consisting of well-established built-up suburbs.” Epping certainly fits this description, especially as it undergoes urban consolidation to increase its density. Berowra is listed as “**Outer Metropolitan** – situated in capital cities and containing large areas of recent suburban expansion.” This description is more consistent with outer areas where space is being opened up for development and is not consistent with the densification taking place in Epping. Epping would be better managed by being retained in Bennelong, where it sits comfortably alongside its neighbouring suburbs.
3. There is a strong community of interest between Epping, Eastwood and Marsfield - with a weaker link to the region north of the M2. Retaining Epping with similar neighbouring suburbs makes more sense than including Epping with less densely developed areas such as Beecroft or Cheltenham, and there would seem to be little in common between Epping and Berowra, for example.

As the areas around Epping, particularly Macquarie Park, undergo major changes, it is in the best interest of our suburb to remain in Bennelong and to have the benefit of consistent representation rather than for Epping to be tacked on to a new electorate that does not have as much in common with Epping and may not be as interested in representing such a small community within its larger boundaries.

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