



Objection 54

Vicki Brous

2 pages

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To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Higgins redistribution objection
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Subject: Objection to the Proposed Abolition of the Federal Electoral Seat of Higgins

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

I trust this message finds you well. My name is Vicki Brous, and I reside [REDACTED] Malvern, within the vibrant and historically rich community of Higgins in Melbourne. I am writing to formally object to the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins as part of the recent redistribution efforts.

Higgins, a seat steeped in history and community spirit, faces an uncertain future with the proposed redistribution that seeks to merge it into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne. This proposal, though perhaps well-intentioned to balance electoral representation, brings with it a cascade of concerns that I feel compelled to voice.

First and foremost, the dissolution of Higgins will undoubtedly dilute the voice of its residents, particularly those of us in Stonnington. Our community, with its unique needs and aspirations, risks losing its tailored representation. The intricate tapestry of Higgins, woven with the threads of long-standing residents and active community groups, stands to be unravelled. Our influence in federal politics, which has been carefully nurtured over the years, may be significantly diminished.

The sense of community identity in Higgins is profound. From the bustling markets of Prahran to the serene gardens of Malvern, our electorate is a mosaic of diverse yet interconnected neighbourhoods. The proposed merger into various neighbouring electorates threatens to disrupt this delicate balance, splitting communities and absorbing them into areas with potentially divergent priorities. This fragmentation is not merely a geographical concern but a cultural and social one as well.

Moreover, the established relationships between Higgins residents and our current Member of Parliament are at risk. These relationships, built on trust and mutual understanding, are crucial for effective representation and advocacy. The potential disruption to services and the advocacy we rely on cannot be understated. New representatives, unfamiliar with the specific needs and ongoing initiatives within Higgins, may inadvertently deprioritise or overlook critical local projects.

The electoral confusion that could arise from this redistribution is another pressing concern. Voters, accustomed to their current polling places and representatives, may find themselves bewildered by the changes. This confusion could lead to decreased voter engagement and participation, undermining the very democratic process this redistribution aims to uphold.

Finally, I must express my apprehension regarding the impact on local projects. Higgins is home to numerous ongoing initiatives that address the unique needs of our community. From infrastructure developments to social programs, these projects require continuity and familiarity to thrive. The introduction of new representatives, however well-meaning, may result in a loss of momentum or a shift in priorities that could be detrimental to our community's progress.

In light of these concerns, I earnestly request the Australian Electoral Commission to reconsider the decision to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. Maintaining the current electoral structure is not merely a matter of convenience but a crucial step in ensuring the continued prosperity and representation of Higgins residents.

Thank you for considering my objections. I trust that the AEC will take into account the profound impact this decision could have on our community and work towards a solution that preserves the integrity and identity of Higgins.

Yours sincerely,

Vicki Brous

