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**Objection Number 104**

**Andrew Abelesz**

**2 pages**

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**From:** SBA [sba@sba2.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 August 2010 4:56 PM  
**To:** VIC Redistribution  
**Subject:** Submission re Redistribution in Melb Ports  
**Attachments:** Submission.doc

**Attached please find a submission re the redistribution proposal for the electorate of Melbourne Ports.**

**Regards**

**ANDREW ABELESZ**

27 August 2010

BY EMAIL

To the Redistribution Committee for Victoria Email: [vicredistribution@aec.gov.au](mailto:vicredistribution@aec.gov.au)

Dear Sirs

***Submission re proposed Boundary Changes for the Division of Melbourne Ports***

I am writing to you following discussions that I have had with numerous informed people and prominent organisations associated with the different Jewish communities in the above electorate.

While we recognize that the AEC has an duty to ensure that the number of voters in each electorate is within guideline requirements, many people are very unhappy at your proposal to have the Melbourne Ports Jewish community split into 3 electorates.

The Jewish community in Victoria has relatively a small number of voters and their influence is currently limited to the Melbourne Ports seat where the majority resides. Unlike other ethnic/cultural/religious groupings, there is no other electorate in the state where our vote may have any influence. Thus splitting our voters into various electorates will eliminate any influence that we may have on our representative. This would be unhelpful to our interests and detrimental towards a number of our major concerns – especially education and security matters.

Furthermore I refer to your publication “2010 Proposed Redistribution of Victoria into Electoral Divisions”:

***201. Recognising the shared community of interest between Balaclava and St Kilda East, the Committee proposes that Melbourne Ports retain the portion of the locality of St Kilda East in Glen Eira LGA.***

The “shared community of interest” for the Jewish community in fact includes all parts of Caulfield, the Glen Eira LGA as well as Elwood, Balaclava and St Kilda East. It is in these areas that 75-80% of all places of significance in Jewish life, religious and cultural exist - including synagogues, most schools, Kosher establishments, seniors facilities etc.

For these reasons we all feel that it is vital that we remain in the one electoral area and be represented by a local and informed MP who will take note of our concerns and interests.

On behalf of the Jewish communities in Melbourne Ports I respectfully request that you reconsider the proposed boundary ideas with a view to ensuring that these significant “Jewish” areas remain in the current electorate. I thank you for the opportunity to comment upon your proposals and look forward to your favourable attention to this request.

Yours faithfully

**ANDREW ABELESZ**

233 Glen Eira Road, St Kilda East, 3183

[sba@sba2.com](mailto:sba@sba2.com) Tel: 0407 233 244