



## Objection 260

Dr Paul Gallivan

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From: Jennifer Gallivan

To: <u>FedRedistribution - VIC</u>

**Subject:** Objection to proposed change to federal boundaries

**Date:** Thursday, 3 May 2018 11:37:15 AM

I write to object to the proposed change to Flemington's electoral boundaries that would move Flemington into the seat of Maribyrnong.

Flemington is more closely aligned to other inner city suburbs than to suburbs in Maribyrnong. Separating it from similar suburbs lessens the chances of its needs being understood and met. Flemington requires an approach to services and infrastructure that is tailored to inner city needs and not 'tacked on' to suburbs with very different requirements. Flemington needs to be represented by some-one with a strong focus on, and understanding of, inner city concerns.

Historically, Flemington and Kensington have shared a strong community of interest and residents want to retain the close connection. For example, residents from both communities are currently working closely together to hold a Flemington/Kensington *Festival of Arts and Ideas* in October this year. The two communities still share many facilities and need to retain their connection unless residents' amenity is to be negatively affected. Dividing the communities at local and state government levels has led to problems. For example, having a local government boundary along Racecourse Road has cut the local community in half and made planning for the area very difficult and unsatisfactory. The loss of connection at federal level would exacerbate these problems.

It is to be hoped that satisfying electoral boundary numbers does not have to come at the cost of community cohesion and well-being.

Dr Paul Gallivan

