



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 286

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I am writing to object to the changes made to the electorate of Bennelong in the 2024 redistribution proposal. I have been a resident of Meadowbank in the Bennelong electorate since 1993 and am familiar with the communities, transport and communication and social links in this area.

The abolition of the seat of North Sydney has created a major distortion in the seat of Bennelong by removing an area which is closely connected to the heart of the electorate and adding areas which are peripheral to the Ryde-Eastwood heart.

The Lane Cove River, a natural division, divided First Nations clans in precolonial times (the Cammaraygal and Wallumedegal) and remains a division in practical terms. There are no close community links, no major transport links and no local government links.

Epping and the adjoining North Epping and Carlingford areas are much more integrated into the Bennelong area. Since the building of the Metro railway line, Epping has become a major hub, linking the Northern Line to the North Ryde and Macquarie Park areas. These are important areas for employment, shopping and the university. Epping has strong links to Eastwood and many local events are held at venues such as the Epping Club. North Epping has been part of Bennelong since 1977. The Midson Road border is also not logical as this is a local road whereas Marsden Road is a major thoroughfare and a more logical border.

I am not denying the difficulties of carrying out a redistribution but the seat of Bennelong works well within its current boundaries and will lose much of its cohesion if the current proposal is implemented.