



Objection 38

Arthur B

2 pages

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Higgins redistribution objection
Date: Thursday, 6 June 2024 11:07:04 PM

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Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

My name is Arthur B, and I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins in Melbourne. The AEC's plan to redistribute and merge Higgins into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne is a matter of profound concern for me and many residents in our community.

Higgins is not just a name on a map; it is a vibrant and distinct community with a rich history and unique identity. Our community of Stonnington, in particular, stands to suffer greatly from this proposed change. The abolition of Higgins will undoubtedly dilute the voice of Higgins/Stonnington residents, reducing our influence in federal politics and potentially leading to less tailored representation for our local needs. This is a significant loss for long-standing Higgins residents and community groups who have, over the years, developed a strong and influential presence in federal matters.

The sense of community identity in Higgins is something we hold dear. Our community has a unique character, shaped by shared experiences and a common history. The proposed redistribution threatens to disrupt this identity by splitting our community and absorbing it into different electorates with potentially different priorities. This fragmentation risks eroding the cohesion and unity that have been the hallmark of Higgins for generations.

Moreover, the established relationships between residents and our current Member of Parliament are invaluable. These relationships are built on trust and mutual understanding, and their disruption could lead to a significant gap in services and advocacy. The continuity of representation is crucial for the effective functioning of our community, and any disruption could have far-reaching consequences.

Electoral confusion is another pressing concern. The proposed changes could lead to significant confusion among voters regarding their new electorates, polling places, and representatives. This confusion may result in decreased voter engagement and participation, undermining the democratic process that we hold so dear.

Finally, the impact on local projects and initiatives cannot be overstated. Ongoing projects that are vital to our community may lose momentum or be deprioritised under new representatives unfamiliar with the specific needs of the Higgins community. The progress we have made in various local initiatives could be jeopardised, affecting the quality of life for many residents.

In light of these concerns, I earnestly request that the AEC reconsider the decision to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. Maintaining the current electoral structure is crucial for the continued well-being and effective representation of Higgins residents. The unique identity, established relationships, and ongoing projects within our community

deserve to be preserved and supported.

Thank you for considering my objection.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur B

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