



Objection 68

Luke Goodman

2 pages

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Higgins redistribution objection
Date: Monday, 10 June 2024 10:56:26 AM

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Subject: Objection to the Proposed Abolition of the Federal Electoral Seat of Higgins

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Luke Goodman, and I reside at [REDACTED] Malvern East, [REDACTED]. I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins in Melbourne, a decision which I believe will have significant adverse effects on our community.

The seat of Higgins is not just a demarcation on a map; it is the beating heart of a vibrant community with a unique identity and a rich history. Higgins, encompassing areas such as Stonnington, has long been a bastion of civic engagement and local pride. The proposed redistribution, which would see Higgins merged into neighbouring electorates like Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne, threatens to dilute the voice of our residents and disrupt the intricate tapestry that defines our community.

The abolition of Higgins will undoubtedly reduce the influence of Stonnington residents in federal politics, leading to less tailored representation for our local needs. Our community has developed a strong and distinct identity over the years, and this unique character will be disrupted as we are absorbed into different electorates with potentially divergent priorities. The voices of long-standing Higgins residents and community groups, who have contributed so much to the fabric of our society, will be diminished, leading to a loss of representation that is deeply concerning.

Moreover, the established relationships that residents have built with our current Member of Parliament will be disrupted. These relationships are not just political; they are the foundation of effective advocacy and service provision. The potential for confusion among voters regarding their new electorates, polling places, and representatives cannot be overstated. This confusion could lead to decreased voter engagement and participation, undermining the democratic process that we hold dear.

Local projects and initiatives, which are the lifeblood of our community, may lose momentum or be deprioritised under new representatives who are unfamiliar with the specific needs of the Higgins community. These projects, whether they are focused on infrastructure, education, or social services, are crucial to the continued development and well-being of our area.

At the very least, I urge the AEC to consider keeping suburbs and postcodes within a single electorate to preserve some semblance of our community's integrity. The residents of Higgins have a shared history and a collective vision for the future, and it is imperative that this is not lost in the process of redistribution.

In light of these concerns, I respectfully request that the AEC reconsider the decision to

abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. Maintaining the current electoral structure is essential for the benefit of Higgins residents, ensuring that our voices continue to be heard and our community remains strong and cohesive.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Luke Goodman

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted contact information]