



# Objection 100

Tiffany Lucas

2 pages

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Saturday, 15 June 2024 2:23 PM

**To:** FedRedistribution - VIC

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Higgins redistribution objection

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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 Tiffany Lucas, a proud resident of Toorak in the heart of the Higgins electorate. I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins as part of the recent redistribution plans.

The AEC's proposal to merge Higgins into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne has stirred significant concern among the residents of Stonnington. The implications of this decision are far-reaching and warrant careful reconsideration.

Firstly, the abolition of Higgins will undeniably dilute the voice of its residents, reducing our influence in federal politics. Higgins, with its rich tapestry of community groups and long-standing residents, has cultivated a unique identity that stands to be eroded. The local needs and aspirations of our community are finely tuned and tailored, and such nuanced representation is at risk of being lost in the broader strokes of larger electorates.

Higgins is not merely a collection of suburbs; it is a community with a shared history and identity. From the elegant streets of Toorak to the bustling markets of Prahran, our electorate is a microcosm of Melbourne's vibrant diversity. Splitting this community and absorbing it into different electorates will disrupt this cohesion, potentially leading to a misalignment of priorities. The distinct character of Higgins, shaped over decades, cannot simply be redrawn on a map without losing something irreplaceable.

Moreover, the established relationships between residents and our current MP are invaluable. These connections foster trust and facilitate effective advocacy and service delivery. The proposed changes threaten to disrupt these relationships, causing potential delays and complications in addressing local issues.

Electoral confusion is another significant concern. The redistribution will inevitably lead to uncertainty among voters regarding their new electorates, polling places, and representatives. This confusion could result in decreased voter engagement and participation, undermining the democratic process.

Lastly, the impact on local projects and initiatives cannot be overlooked. Higgins has numerous ongoing projects tailored to the specific needs of our community. Under new representatives unfamiliar with these

initiatives, there is a real risk that these projects may lose momentum or be deprioritised, to the detriment of our community.

In light of these points, I respectfully urge the AEC to reconsider the decision to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. Maintaining the current electoral structure is crucial for ensuring that the residents of Higgins continue to receive tailored representation, preserving our community identity, and sustaining the momentum of local projects and initiatives.

Thank you for considering my concerns. I trust that the AEC will recognise the importance of maintaining the integrity of the Higgins electorate for the benefit of its residents.

Yours sincerely,

Tiffany Lucas  
Toorak, VIC

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