



# Objection 101

Julie McLean

2 pages

**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]  
**To:** [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Higgins redistribution objection  
**Date:** Saturday, 15 June 2024 3:21:55 PM

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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 Julie McLean, and I am a resident of South Yarra, [REDACTED], within the vibrant and historically significant electorate of Higgins. 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 efforts.

In the style of the inimitable Peter FitzSimons, I wish to convey the depth of my concern and the reasons why this decision would be detrimental to our community.

First and foremost, the abolition of Higgins will dilute the voice of its residents, particularly those of us in Stonnington. Our influence in federal politics will be significantly diminished, leading to less tailored representation for our local needs. The unique tapestry of Higgins, woven from years of shared history and collective effort, risks being unravelled and dispersed into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne. This fragmentation is not just a bureaucratic shift; it is a profound loss of identity and representation for the people who call Higgins home.

The community identity of Higgins is a cornerstone of our collective spirit. From the bustling streets of Prahran Market to the serene banks of the Yarra River, Higgins is a microcosm of Melbourne's diverse and dynamic character. The proposed changes threaten to disrupt this unique community fabric, splitting us into different electorates with potentially divergent priorities. The residents of Higgins have long prided themselves on their cohesive community, and this proposal risks eroding the very essence of what makes our area special.

Furthermore, the established relationships between Higgins residents and our current Member of Parliament are invaluable. These relationships have been built on trust, mutual understanding, and a deep commitment to addressing local issues. The proposed redistribution would disrupt these bonds, potentially leading to a loss of services and advocacy that are crucial to our community's well-being.

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

Lastly, the impact on local projects and initiatives cannot be overstated. Higgins has a number of ongoing projects that are vital to our community's development and prosperity. These initiatives may lose momentum or be deprioritized under new representatives who are unfamiliar with the specific needs and aspirations of the Higgins community.

In light of these concerns, I respectfully urge the Australian Electoral Commission to reconsider the decision to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. Maintaining the

current electoral structure is crucial for the continued representation and well-being of Higgins residents.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Julie McLean  
South Yarra, [REDACTED]

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