



Objection 116

Linda Fitzpatrick

2 pages

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Higgins redistribution objection
Date: Monday, 17 June 2024 8:37:20 AM

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

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

My name is Linda Fitzpatrick, and I am writing to express my profound objection to the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins in Melbourne. As a resident of Stonnington, I am deeply concerned about the implications this decision will have on our community.

Higgins, with its vibrant tapestry of history and unique community identity, stands as a testament to the resilience and unity of its residents. The proposed redistribution, which involves merging Higgins into neighbouring electorates like Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne, threatens to dilute our voice and reduce our influence in federal politics. This dilution is not merely a matter of numbers; it is a matter of representation. The abolition will remove the voice of long-standing Higgins residents and community groups, leaving us with less tailored representation for our local needs.

Our community in Stonnington has a rich history, one that is intricately woven into the fabric of Higgins. The unique identity of our community will be disrupted as we are split and absorbed into different electorates with potentially different priorities. This is not just a loss of a seat; it is a loss of our collective identity and heritage.

Furthermore, the established relationships that residents have with our current MP will be disrupted. These relationships are not just political; they are personal and deeply rooted in years of service and advocacy. The potential disruption to services and ongoing local projects is a cause for great concern. Initiatives that have been championed by our current representatives may lose momentum or be deprioritised under new representatives unfamiliar with the specific needs of the Higgins community.

Electoral confusion is another significant issue. Voters will be left bewildered about their new electorates, polling places, and representatives. This confusion could lead to decreased voter engagement and participation, undermining the very essence of our democratic process.

It is unconscionable to try and change electoral boundaries for no other reason than to try and stack an election. If that's the only way the current Government thinks they can win the next election, then they clearly know their policies aren't what people want and should either govern properly or get out now.

I urge the AEC to reconsider this decision. The importance of maintaining the current electoral structure for the benefit of Higgins residents cannot be overstated. Our community deserves to have its voice heard and its identity preserved.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Linda Fitzpatrick

