



# Objection 406

Rob Wagon

2 pages

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Higgins redistribution objection  
**Date:** Thursday, 27 June 2024 9:15:18 PM

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Subject: Urgent Appeal Against the Abolition of the Higgins Federal Electoral Seat

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Rob Wagon, and I am writing to you from the heart of Stonnington, an integral part of the Higgins electorate. With deep concern, I wish to express my objection to the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins as part of the redistribution aimed at balancing electoral representation due to population changes.

In the grand tapestry of Melbourne's federal landscape, Higgins stands as a unique thread, woven with rich history and vibrant community spirit. The proposal to merge Higgins into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne, while seemingly practical, threatens to unravel the very fabric of our community.

The most immediate and palpable impact of this decision would be the dilution of our voice. Higgins, particularly the Stonnington area, has always prided itself on its robust representation in federal politics. The unique needs and aspirations of our residents are finely tuned and deeply understood by our current MP. The abolition of Higgins would not only scatter our votes but also potentially lead to less tailored representation, leaving our local issues lost in the broader agendas of larger, amalgamated electorates.

Moreover, the community identity of Higgins is a treasure trove of history and collective memory. From the leafy boulevards of Toorak to the bustling markets of Prahran, our electorate is a mosaic of shared experiences and common goals. The proposed redistribution would disrupt this harmony, forcing communities with distinct identities and priorities into a conglomerate that may not resonate with their unique needs.

The established relationships between Higgins residents and our current MP are not merely political; they are the lifeblood of our community's advocacy and services. The potential disruption of these relationships could lead to a significant gap in the continuity of services and the momentum of local projects. Our MP's intimate understanding of our local challenges and aspirations cannot be easily replicated by representatives unfamiliar with our specific context.

Furthermore, the electoral confusion that could arise from this change is a matter of grave concern. The reallocation of polling places, the redefinition of electoral boundaries, and the introduction of new representatives could lead to voter disorientation. This confusion may result in decreased voter engagement and participation, undermining the very democratic process the redistribution aims to balance.

In light of these points, I earnestly request the AEC to reconsider the decision to abolish

the Higgins federal electoral seat. Maintaining the current electoral structure is not merely a matter of preserving boundaries; it is about safeguarding the voice, identity, and democratic engagement of Higgins residents. The unique character of our community deserves a dedicated representation that understands and advocates for our local needs.

Thank you for considering my appeal. I trust that the AEC will take into account the profound implications of this decision on the residents of Higgins and work towards a solution that honours our community's integrity and representation.

Yours sincerely,

Rob Wagon

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