



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Objection 46

Jessica Wong

2 pages

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

I am writing to formally object to the proposed boundary changes for the federal electorate of Bennelong, which would see Epping, North Epping, and Carlingford removed from Bennelong and redistributed into the electorates of Berowra and Parramatta.

My objections are based on several key points:

1. **Historical Significance:** North Epping has been a part of Bennelong since 1977, and the Epping town centre has been integral to the electorate for over 20 years. This long-standing inclusion is a vital part of our community's identity and heritage.
2. **Community Interests:** There is a strong community of interest between Epping, Eastwood, and Marsfield. These areas share common economic, social, and regional interests. In contrast, there is a weaker link between these communities and the regions north of the M2, making the proposal to move North Epping and the Epping town centre into Berowra less effective and potentially disruptive.
3. **Disruption of Services and Representation:** Splitting the suburb of Epping across two federal electorates undermines the efforts and progress made in maintaining single-seat representation in the Epping Town Centre across the three levels of government. This change could lead to confusion and inefficiency in the delivery of services and representation for the residents of Epping.
4. **Geographical and Physical Considerations:** The proposal to move North Epping and the Epping town centre into Berowra involves crossing the M2, which is a significant physical barrier. This division does not align with the natural geographic boundaries and could complicate means of communication and travel within the community.
5. **Educational Impact:** Many families in Epping, North Epping, and Carlingford have children attending schools within these areas. Shifting these suburbs to different electorates could complicate educational representation and funding, affecting school communities and resources.
6. **Healthcare and Services:** Residents of Epping, North Epping, and Carlingford share common healthcare facilities and services. Changing the electorate boundaries may disrupt the continuity of care and access to familiar healthcare providers and services.
7. **Economic Ties:** The economic ties between Epping, North Epping, and Carlingford are strong, with many local businesses and markets serving these communities collectively. Splitting these areas could have an adverse effect on local economies and business operations.
8. **Transport Links:** The public transport systems, including buses and trains, are designed to serve the current electorate boundaries effectively. Redrawing the boundaries might disrupt established transport links, causing inconvenience and longer commute times for residents.
9. **Cultural and Recreational Activities:** Epping, North Epping, and Carlingford share cultural and recreational facilities such as parks, community centers, and sports clubs. Keeping these areas within the same electorate ensures the preservation of these shared community assets.

10. **Resident Feedback and Sentiment:** Many locals have expressed strong opposition to the proposed changes, highlighting a collective desire to maintain the current boundaries. The sense of community and belonging is strong, and preserving the current electorate structure supports this communal sentiment.

In conclusion, I believe that the proposed changes would negatively impact the cohesiveness and effective representation of our community. I urge the AEC to reconsider this proposal and maintain the current boundaries of Bennelong to ensure continuity and stability for the residents of Epping, North Epping, and Carlingford.

Thank you for considering my objection.

Jessica Wong