



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 516

Sean McSharry

1 page

Sean McSharry

Mosman 2088

9 July 2024

Objection to elimination of Federal Seat of North Sydney

The elimination of North Sydney is objected to on the grounds of destruction of electoral history in our country. In addition to efficiency, there are other elements in our democratic progression. This includes the need for our young Commonwealth to preserve some vital relics of our emergence as a vibrant member in national and world prominence. The seat of North Sydney is a seminal part of the expansion of the Sydney Cove area, politically. Even in the era of small ferries and labour boats, North Sydney became a bulwark of the Northern expansion of the greater Sydney area.

Statistically the borders electorally must move. Even some names must go. But the idea that Sydney and North Sydney be removed from our Parliamentary nomenclature is essentially and historically confronting. How can North Sydney as part of our cradle of democracy be discarded, like some sort of insignificant label. Is there no music in the sound of: "The Member from North Sydney" in the ears of our Electoral Commission? Is there no feeling of the majestic descent towards the Harbour in the South. No more amazement of the startling presence of the Sydney Harbour Bridge at the Northern Anchor of the Inner Harbour and the partner of the splendid Opera House?

In a place like Paris, this snub to a core place and name would be unthinkable. Imagine erasing Westminster, City of London, Southwark and all that.

Let us not be distracted by foreign practice, rather to uphold the values of names in our history. Happily we are creating blended names - maybe to become restoration/replacements of those current. But, looking at the heart of our City, the erasure of North Sydney or Sydney would be a gross loss of heritage, and I deplore it.

I argue that the statisticians can be flexible in redistribution, particularly as to naming. I recommend you retain the name of North Sydney to avoid the sense of loss that would follow the removal of North Sydney from our Electoral rolls.

Please think deeply.

Respectfully.

Sean McSharry