



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 541

Stephen Ramsey

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[REDACTED]
NORTHBRIDGE NSW 2063

Australian Electoral Commission
Locked Bag 4007
CANBERRA ACT 2601

6 July, 2024

Draft Plan to Abolish the Federal Seat of North Sydney

My name is Stephen Ramsey and I am a resident of Northbridge, in the seat of North Sydney. My children and my grandchildren live in this electorate. I have resided in the electorate since 2022 and have very strong and established ties to this community. My passionate sense of identity with North Sydney comes from belonging to a broad range of service groups, charities, sporting groups and community forums. I also use many of the community facilities across the electorate from North Sydney to Lane Cove and Lane Cove as a product of my involvement within the electorate.

I have seen the tremendous growth in the number of student enrolments in schools (both Primary and Secondary) across the whole electorate. Most of these local schools are at or above capacity. To me, this indicates a strong population growth of young and growing families. The recent NSW Government plans to increase population density (by 2029) in our area will see nearly 6000 new homes built in the North Sydney LGA; 3400 new dwellings in the Lane Cove LGA and 3400 new homes in the Willoughby LGA. Aggregating the projected growth across all LGAs in North Sydney Electorate (and including other local council housing targets), this will result in over 24,000 new homes across the federal seat.

This expected growth in population across the North Sydney Electorate in such a short period of time is very significant significant, given the reason for the proposed abolition of the seat is due to reducing population numbers. At this rate, there is every probability that the AEC would need to re-establish the Federal seat of North Sydney at the next redistribution in seven years.

The North Sydney CBD is the third largest in Australia and is headquarters for a wide range of international corporations, national companies and local enterprises. This diverse array of companies span knowledge based industries such as finance, technology, media, health, property and construction. I believe that the business and industrial zones of North Sydney demand the focus of a dedicated local member of Federal Parliament. The different business needs of the neighbouring electorates of Bradfield, Warringah and Bennelong are different in scale and dimension.

The North Sydney community is very progressive, active and engaged across cultural, religious, social, educational and environmental spheres. We are a cohesive community that respects the productive diversity of our residents. More than half of our residents were born overseas and/or speak a language other than English at home. The community is proud to have elected an independent member of parliament, to have voted overwhelmingly for the Indigenous Voice to Parliament and to have representation that is consultative and inclusive. This strong independent voice is not only beneficial for our electorate, but for all of Australia. These connections that bind our community are strong and should not be discounted.

The North Sydney electorate, being one of the original 75 federation divisions in Australia's first federal election, is historically significant and should not be abolished. In those 123 years North Sydney has been a strong voice in Canberra.

I strongly oppose the draft proposal to abolish the seat of North Sydney and request that the seat remain intact.

Yours sincerely [REDACTED]

Stephen Ramsey [REDACTED]