



Comment on objections 38

Roxane Ingleton

2 pages

Comment on “Objection 487 - Victorian Labor”

How can you consider having a suburb with “Melbourne” in its title, not fall into the electorate of Melbourne?

Dear Secretariat,

My name is Roxane Ingleton, and I have lived, studied and worked in the federal electorate of Melbourne for almost 15 years (longer if you consider cumulatively, not just consecutively). First in Flemington, since redistributed into the seat of Maribyrnong, and now, since 2016, in North Melbourne. When I finished my studies at ACU in Fitzroy, I commenced work at The Royal Women’s Hospital, Parkville in 2015. It’s hard to express just how connected I am to this electorate.

I have just read the Victorian Labor objection to boundary redistributions that proposes moving North Melbourne and some of Parkville into the Federal seat of Melbourne. Ridiculously, in the same point (Point #1 on page 7), they argue for restoring the “natural boundary” of Moonee Ponds Creek in Wills, yet wish to ignore this “natural boundary” at the edge of North Melbourne. Their arguments appear very contradictory and self-serving. They talk about reuniting the communities of Kensington, North Melbourne and Parkville, when Kensington and north Melbourne are separated by Moonee Ponds creek and a largely industrial area. I have never walked to Kensington, but I frequently walk to Carlton, the CBD and Parkville.

Similarly, they present arguments about reuniting suburbs that fall under the same LGA, yet moving North Melbourne into Maribyrnong would further divide and complicate the existing LGA divisions.

North Melbourne has been part of the Melbourne electorate since federation. It abuts the CBD. Where I live, I am less than 100m from Melbourne CBD, Carlton and Parkville and a few hundred metres from West Melbourne. The geography and demographic of our suburb is so vastly different from that of Maribyrnong. Our needs are very different. Housing needs, transport needs. The Melbourne electorate and North Melbourne, has a much higher demographic of renters vs owner occupiers.

North and West Melbourne are all but the one suburb, our community associations, our local newspaper – are all “North and West Melbourne”. Even our “North Melbourne” train station is in West Melbourne. Splitting our community in this way would be very divisive.

We shop at the Vic Market. We walk our dogs in Royal Park. We work at the hospitals and the universities in Parkville and Carlton. I am speaking for myself and my household, but I can promise you so many of my neighbours are the same.

I'm not sure what else to say. Geographically this just makes no sense and hopefully the Commission will see Labor's complaint for the cynical gerrymandering it is.

Yours,

Roxane Ingleton

[REDACTED]

North Melbourne

Vic [REDACTED]