



# Objection 59

Fiona

2 pages

**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]  
**To:** [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Higgins redistribution objection  
**Date:** Sunday, 9 June 2024 4:18:19 PM

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Subject: Urgent Objection to the Abolition of the Federal Electoral Seat of Higgins

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

My name is Fiona, and I am writing to express my profound objection to the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins in Melbourne. This decision, which forms part of a redistribution effort to balance electoral representation due to population changes, has raised significant concerns within our community. The plan to merge Higgins into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne, is deeply troubling for several reasons.

Firstly, the abolition of Higgins will undeniably dilute the voice of its residents, many of whom have long-standing ties to the area. The unique and vibrant community of Higgins has been a cornerstone of Melbourne's social and political landscape. The loss of this seat will result in reduced influence in federal politics, and the distinct needs and aspirations of our community may be overshadowed by the broader concerns of larger, amalgamated electorates.

Higgins is not just a geographical area; it is a community with a rich history and a unique identity. From the bustling streets of Prahran to the serene parks of Malvern, our community is a tapestry of diverse cultures and shared experiences. The proposed changes threaten to fragment this identity, as our neighbourhoods are split and absorbed into electorates with potentially divergent priorities. This disruption is not merely administrative; it is an erosion of our communal fabric.

Moreover, the established relationships between Higgins residents and our current Member of Parliament are invaluable. Our MP has been a steadfast advocate for local issues, and the abolition of Higgins would disrupt these vital connections. This disruption could lead to a lapse in services and advocacy that are tailored to our specific needs, causing potential setbacks in addressing local concerns.

The proposed changes also risk causing significant electoral confusion. Voters may find themselves unsure of their new electorates, polling places, and representatives, which could lead to decreased voter engagement and participation. Such confusion undermines the very essence of democratic representation.

Lastly, the impact on local projects and initiatives cannot be overstated. Higgins has been the birthplace of numerous community-driven projects that have greatly benefited our area. The introduction of new representatives, unfamiliar with the intricacies of our community's needs, may result in these projects losing momentum or being deprioritised.

I implore the Australian Electoral Commission to reconsider this decision. Maintaining the current electoral structure is crucial for the continued representation and well-being of

Higgins residents. The abolition of our seat would not only dilute our voice but also disrupt the very essence of our community.

Thank you for considering my objection. I trust that the AEC will take into account the profound implications of this decision and act in the best interest of the Higgins community.

Yours sincerely,

Fiona

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