



# Objection 111

May Shakespeare

2 pages

**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]  
**To:** [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Higgins redistribution objection  
**Date:** Sunday, 16 June 2024 5:48:43 PM

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

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

I am writing to you from my home at [REDACTED] Ashburton [REDACTED], with a deep sense of urgency and concern regarding the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins. My name is May Shakespeare, and I feel compelled to voice my strong objection to this significant and disruptive change.

Higgins is not just a name on a map; it is a vibrant and historically rich community with a unique identity that has been meticulously cultivated over decades. The AEC's proposal to dissolve Higgins and merge it into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne threatens to dismantle the very fabric of our community.

The loss of representation is a grave concern. The abolition of Higgins will effectively dilute the voice of long-standing residents and community groups, diminishing our influence in federal politics. We have built strong, meaningful relationships with our current Member of Parliament, who understands our unique needs and advocates on our behalf. This established connection is not easily transferable to new representatives who may not share the same commitment to our local issues.

Moreover, Higgins boasts a distinct community identity, characterised by its rich history and diverse population. This proposal threatens to disrupt our community, splitting us into different electorates with potentially divergent priorities. The sense of belonging and unity that we have cultivated over the years will be shattered, leaving us fragmented and disoriented.

Electoral confusion is another significant concern. The merging of Higgins into neighbouring electorates will undoubtedly lead to confusion among voters regarding their new electorates, polling places, and representatives. This confusion could result in decreased voter engagement and participation, undermining the democratic process and the very principles upon which our electoral system is built.

Furthermore, the impact on local projects cannot be overstated. Higgins is home to numerous ongoing local projects and initiatives that are tailored to the specific needs of our community. The proposed redistribution could lead to these projects losing momentum or being deprioritised under new representatives unfamiliar with our unique requirements. This would be a disservice to the residents of Higgins who have invested time, effort, and resources into these initiatives.

In conclusion, I implore the Australian Electoral Commission to reconsider the decision to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. Maintaining the current electoral structure is

crucial for preserving the voice, identity, and unity of our community. It is essential for ensuring that our local projects continue to thrive and that our democratic engagement remains robust.

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

Yours sincerely,

May Shakespeare

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