



# Objection 125

Virginia H

2 pages

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Monday, 17 June 2024 5:18 PM

**To:** FedRedistribution - VIC

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Higgins redistribution objection

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the Australian Federal Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Subject: Urgent Appeal Against the Abolition of the Federal Electoral Seat of Higgins

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

I trust this message finds you well. My name is Virginia H, a long-standing resident of the Stonnington community within the federal electoral seat of Higgins. I am writing to express my profound concern and strong objection to the proposed abolition of the Higgins electorate as part of the redistribution aimed at balancing electoral representation due to population changes.

The seat of Higgins, established in 1949 and named after the esteemed Justice H.B. Higgins, is not merely a geographical delineation but a vibrant tapestry of history, community, and representation. It encompasses a unique blend of heritage and contemporary living, a fact well-acknowledged by its residents. The proposed merger into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne threatens to dilute this distinctive identity and diminish the voice of Higgins residents in federal politics.

Firstly, the loss of representation is a significant concern. The abolition of Higgins will remove the voice of long-standing residents and community groups, reducing their influence in federal politics. Our community in Stonnington, which includes suburbs like Malvern, Toorak, and Prahran, has specific needs and priorities that may not align with those of the neighbouring electorates. The tailored representation we currently enjoy could be lost, leaving our local needs inadequately addressed.

Moreover, the unique community identity of Higgins is at risk. Our electorate is characterised by a rich history and a strong sense of belonging among its residents. This identity will be disrupted as our communities are split and absorbed into different electorates, each with potentially different priorities. The sense of unity and shared purpose that defines Higgins could be irreparably damaged.

The disruption of established political relationships is another pressing issue. Residents have built strong relationships with our current MP, who understands the intricacies of our community and advocates effectively on our behalf. The proposed changes could disrupt these relationships, leading to a potential decline in the quality of services and advocacy we receive.

Electoral confusion is also a concern. The reallocation of voters to new electorates, along with changes to polling places and representatives, could lead to confusion among voters. This confusion may result in decreased voter engagement and participation, undermining the democratic process.

Lastly, the impact on local projects and initiatives cannot be overlooked. Ongoing projects that are vital to our community's development may lose momentum or be deprioritised under new representatives unfamiliar with the specific needs of the Higgins community. The progress we have made could be jeopardised, affecting the quality of life for all residents.

In light of these concerns, I respectfully request the AEC to reconsider the decision to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. Maintaining the current electoral structure is crucial for the continued representation and well-being of Higgins residents. Our community's voice, identity, and ongoing projects depend on it.

Thank you for considering my appeal.

Yours sincerely,

Virginia H  
[REDACTED] VIC

-----  
Visit this link to stop these emails:

[REDACTED]