



Objection 139

Matilda Hope

2 pages

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Higgins redistribution objection
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Subject: Objection to the Proposed Abolition of the Federal Electoral Seat of Higgins

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

I trust this email finds you well. My name is Matilda Hope, and I am writing to express my profound objection to the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins in Melbourne. This proposal, part of a redistribution effort to balance electoral representation due to population changes, would see Higgins merged into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne.

The seat of Higgins is more than just a delineated area on a map; it is a vibrant and cohesive community with a rich history and a unique identity. Higgins, which includes the municipality of Stonnington, is home to a diverse and dynamic population that has long prided itself on its distinct voice in federal politics. The proposed abolition threatens to dilute this voice, reducing our influence and potentially leading to less tailored representation for our local needs.

Stonnington, a jewel within Higgins, is a community where neighbours know each other by name, where local businesses thrive on the support of loyal patrons, and where community groups work tirelessly to enhance the quality of life for all residents. The abolition of Higgins would disrupt this sense of community, splitting us into different electorates with potentially different priorities. This disruption is not just a matter of lines on a map; it is a matter of identity and belonging.

Moreover, the established relationships between Higgins residents and our current Member of Parliament are invaluable. These relationships have been built on trust and mutual understanding, and the potential disruption to services and advocacy that would result from the abolition of Higgins cannot be understated. The loss of these relationships would be a significant blow to our community.

Electoral confusion is another critical concern. The reallocation of voters to new electorates, polling places, and representatives could lead to decreased voter engagement and participation. This confusion would be particularly detrimental in a time when fostering democratic participation is more important than ever.

Additionally, the impact on local projects and initiatives cannot be ignored. Ongoing projects that are vital to the Higgins community may lose momentum or be deprioritised under new representatives who are unfamiliar with our specific needs. This would be a disservice to the residents of Higgins and a setback for the progress we have worked so hard to achieve.

In conclusion, I urge the Australian Electoral Commission to reconsider the decision to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. The unique identity, established relationships,

and ongoing projects of the Higgins community are too valuable to be disrupted. Maintaining the current electoral structure is essential for the continued representation and well-being of Higgins residents.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your favourable consideration of my request.

Yours sincerely,

Matilda Hope

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