



Objection 164

Noriko Bui

2 pages

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, 22 June 2024 8:28 AM

To: FedRedistribution - VIC

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Higgins redistribution objection

Categories: [REDACTED]

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

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Noriko Bui, and I am writing to express my profound objection to the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins in Melbourne.

In the eloquent words of famed journalist and writer, Peter FitzSimons, let us delve into the heart of the matter with a touch of local flair and fervour.

Higgins, a name synonymous with the beating heart of Melbourne's vibrant tapestry, stands at the crossroads of change. The AEC's proposal to dissolve this cherished seat, merging it into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne, presents a formidable challenge to the essence of representation and community.

Loss of Representation: The abolition of Higgins threatens to silence the long-standing voices of its residents and community groups. This is not merely a matter of redrawing lines on a map; it is about the erosion of a unique and influential voice in federal politics. The residents of Higgins have, for decades, contributed to the national discourse, their concerns and aspirations echoing through the corridors of power. To dissolve this seat is to dilute their influence, leaving them adrift in a sea of larger electorates where their specific needs may be overshadowed.

Community Identity: Higgins is not just an electoral boundary; it is a community with a rich history and a distinct identity. From the bustling streets of South Yarra to the serene parks of Malvern, the seat of Higgins encapsulates a diverse yet cohesive community. This unique identity will be disrupted as our communities are split and absorbed into different electorates with potentially divergent priorities. The sense of belonging and shared purpose that has been nurtured over generations is at risk of being fragmented and lost.

Impact on Local Projects: The ongoing local projects and initiatives that have been painstakingly developed to cater to the specific needs of the Higgins community may lose momentum or be deprioritised under new representatives unfamiliar with our unique challenges and aspirations. From infrastructure improvements to community health initiatives, these projects are the lifeblood of our community, and their continuity is paramount.

The residents of Higgins have established strong relationships with their current MP, relationships built on trust and mutual understanding. The proposed changes threaten to disrupt these relationships, creating uncertainty and confusion among voters regarding their new electorates, polling places, and representatives. This could lead to decreased voter engagement and participation, undermining the democratic process.

In light of these concerns, I respectfully urge the AEC to reconsider the decision to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. The preservation of our current electoral structure is not merely a matter of administrative convenience; it is a testament to the enduring spirit and identity of the Higgins community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Noriko Bui

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