



Objection 360

John Longo

2 pages

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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 27 June 2024 2:51 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 email finds you well. My name is John Longo, and I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins in Melbourne, a matter of significant concern to me and my community in Stonnington.

Higgins is not merely a name on a map; it is a vibrant tapestry of unique community identity, rich history, and deep-rooted connections. The AEC's proposal to dissolve this seat as part of a redistribution to balance electoral representation due to population changes threatens to unravel this intricate fabric. The merging of Higgins into neighbouring electorates like Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne will, undoubtedly, have far-reaching repercussions.

The residents of Stonnington, who have long been part of the Higgins electorate, will find their voices diluted, their influence in federal politics diminished. This loss of representation is not a mere inconvenience; it is a significant blow to our ability to advocate for tailored solutions to our local needs. Our community groups, which have tirelessly worked to foster a cohesive and supportive environment, will see their efforts fragmented as they are absorbed into different electorates with potentially divergent priorities.

Moreover, Higgins boasts a storied history, one that is inextricably linked to the identity of its residents. From the leafy boulevards of Malvern East to the bustling streets of Prahran, our community has thrived on its shared values and collective spirit. The proposed redistribution threatens to disrupt this harmony, scattering our community into disparate electorates and eroding the sense of belonging that has been cultivated over decades.

The established relationships between Higgins residents and our current MP are another casualty of this proposed change. These relationships, built on trust and mutual understanding, are crucial for effective representation and advocacy. The disruption of these political relationships will undoubtedly lead to a loss of momentum for ongoing local projects and initiatives, which may be deprioritized under new representatives unfamiliar with the specific needs of the Higgins community.

Furthermore, the electoral confusion that will ensue cannot be understated. Voters will be left grappling with new electorates, polling places, and representatives, leading to decreased voter engagement and

participation. This confusion undermines the very essence of a democratic process, which relies on informed and active citizenry.

In light of these concerns, I earnestly request the AEC to reconsider the decision to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. The preservation of our current electoral structure is paramount for the continued prosperity and representation of Higgins residents. It is not merely about drawing lines on a map; it is about safeguarding the voice, identity, and future of a community that has thrived under the banner of Higgins.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

John Longo

[REDACTED]

Malvern East

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