



# Objection 379

Henry Boekemann

2 pages

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Higgins redistribution objection  
**Date:** Thursday, 27 June 2024 1:44:14 PM

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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 Henry Boekemann, and I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins in Melbourne. As a resident of Stonnington, I am deeply concerned about the implications this decision will have on our community.

The AEC's proposal to merge Higgins into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne, while intended to balance electoral representation due to population changes, will undoubtedly have several adverse effects on our community.

Firstly, the abolition of Higgins will significantly dilute the voice of Higgins and Stonnington residents. The unique needs and concerns of our local community may be overshadowed by the broader interests of larger electorates. This dilution of representation will lead to less tailored advocacy for our local needs, ultimately reducing our influence in federal politics.

Higgins boasts a rich history and a unique community identity that will be disrupted if the electorate is absorbed into neighbouring electorates. The residents of Stonnington have long shared a sense of unity and common purpose, which will be compromised as our community is split and absorbed into different electorates with potentially different priorities. This disruption will erode the strong sense of belonging that has been cultivated over the years.

Moreover, the established relationships that residents have with our current Member of Parliament will be disrupted. These relationships are vital for effective representation and advocacy. The potential loss of these connections will undoubtedly impact the services and support that our community currently receives.

Electoral confusion is another significant concern. The proposed changes will lead to confusion among voters regarding their new electorates, polling places, and representatives. This confusion may result in decreased voter engagement and participation, undermining the democratic process.

Additionally, ongoing local projects and initiatives may lose momentum or be deprioritised under new representatives who are unfamiliar with the specific needs of the Higgins community. The potential loss of support for these projects will hinder progress and development in our area.

Higgins has been a cornerstone of our community, and its abolition will have far-reaching

consequences. The residents of Stonnington deserve to have their voices heard and their needs addressed in a manner that is tailored to our unique community.

I kindly request that the AEC reconsider the decision to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. Maintaining the current electoral structure is essential for the benefit of Higgins residents and the continued prosperity of our community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Henry Boekemann

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