



Objection 407

Edward Krutsch

2 pages

To whom it may concern,

RE : 2023-2024 Victorian federal redistribution

My name is Edward Krutsch. I'm a 23 year old resident of Fitzroy North. Writing to express my support for the suburbs of Princes Hill, Carlton North & Fitzroy North joining the federal electorate of Wills. In learning of the proposed redistribution, changing my electorate from Melbourne to Wills, I was overjoyed. To me, the opportunity to be in the same electorate as my own community is critical to both community cohesion and also the strength of our democracy. My following submission expands on these two key reasons to make the case for Princes Hill, Carlton North & Fitzroy North joining the federal electorate of Wills.

Our Community

As a young person, my world revolves around the suburbs north of me, not south. As a young resident of Fitzroy north, my friends, peers and community are found in shared houses in the places where they can afford, such as Brunswick and Coburg, they are not in East Melbourne or Docklands. I shop where it is affordable to do so, also in suburbs like Brunswick and Coburg, and certainly not East Melbourne or Docklands. Finally, when I go out at night time, for food or entertainment, it certainly isn't to East Melbourne or Docklands, it's to Sydney road or Lygon st.

The inclusion of my suburb, Fitzroy north, as well as my neighbours in Princes Hill and Carlton North, in the federal electorate of wills allows for a community of interest to be developed. This community of interest, of young people, who are united in their challenges, such as the cost of living and housing crisis, is desperately needed to be united in one federal electorate, in hope that parliamentary representation can be achieved for this often overlooked community of interest.

Our Democracy

The political awareness and participation of my community of young people, often in short term shared housing, is significantly less than the national average. With young people under 25 often only turning out to vote at only 90%, much of the cause of this turn out is due to confusion around the structure of the electoral system. Younger people, with less experience in electoral participation are less inclined to be aware of their electoral boundaries. Much of this confusion and lack of awareness is due to a lack of cohesion between local, state and federal boundaries. Placing suburbs such as Princes Hill, Carlton North & Fitzroy North, which are in the state seat of Brunswick, in the federal seat that houses the suburb of Brunswick, critically simplifies the process of electoral participation for those newer to our democracy. Without the participation of those under 25, our democracy doesn't work as it should,

and the issues facing some of our most vulnerable community members sit unaddressed.

I urge the AEC to redistribute Princes Hill, Carlton North & Fitzroy North into the federal electorate of Wills, for the sake of both our community, and our democracy.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any more questions or wish to discuss further.

Kind regards,

Edward Krutsch

Fitzroy North