



Objection 197

Bruce Tulloch

2 pages

Objection to the Proposed Abolition of the North Sydney Electorate

As a long-standing resident and active member of the North Sydney community, I am writing to **formally object to the proposed abolition of the North Sydney electorate**.

Having lived and worked in this electorate for over 25 years, I have a deep understanding of its unique characteristics and the vital role it plays both locally and nationally.

Personal Impact

My involvement in the North Sydney community has been extensive, particularly in the areas of education and infrastructure. I have led efforts to upgrade local schools and amenities, significantly enhancing the quality of life for residents. This work included meeting with federal and state ministers for education, health, and infrastructure, resulting in successful outcomes that benefited the entire community. Abolishing the North Sydney electorate would undermine these efforts and disrupt the continuity of representation that has been crucial to our progress.

Community Involvement

The North Sydney electorate is home to a cohesive and engaged community, united by shared values and goals. Our community groups, including environmental, humanitarian, religious, and social organisations, work tirelessly towards a better Australia. We have been proud to be amond the few electorates to support independent representation, back in 1990 with Ted Mack and again in 2022 with Kylea Tink. We were one of the few to vote for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament in the 2023 referendum. Our cultural diversity, with half of the population born overseas and a third speaking a language other than English at home, is a testament to our inclusivity and active civic participation. This is all put at risk with the proposed abolition of the electorate.

Economic Significance

North Sydney is Australia's third-largest business centre, hosting 28,000 small to medium-sized businesses. The economic impact of these businesses cannot be overstated, and they require dedicated representation to address their unique needs. The proposed boundary changes do not adequately consider the distinct commercial landscape of North Sydney, which is integral to the local and national economy. Those like me who live here recognise this significance and the context it gives to the voice of the residents of North Sydney, a voice that will be muted if the seat is abolished.

Cultural and Social Significance

The cultural and social fabric of North Sydney is rich and diverse. We are home to several active and competitive sports teams, including two of the largest community-based sporting organisations in the state. The historical significance of North Sydney as one of the 75 original federation divisions, represented by notable figures such as a prime minister, a treasurer, and independent trailblazer Ted Mack, is deeply embedded in our community identity. This proud history of independence would be lost with the proposed boundary changes.

Historical Significance

North Sydney's status as a federation seat for 123 years is not merely historical trivia; it is a cornerstone of our community's identity. Abolishing this electorate would erase a significant part of our heritage, including the legacy of Ted Mack, who exemplified independent representation. Preserving this historical continuity is vital for maintaining our community's unique character and sense of place.

Conclusion and Alternative Proposal

In light of the above, I urge the AEC to reconsider the proposed abolition of the North Sydney electorate. The population growth projections, economic significance, community cohesion, cultural and social richness, and historical importance all argue strongly against such a move. Instead, I propose that the AEC retain the core community of interest in North Sydney, reflecting the feedback and objections received. This approach would ensure that North Sydney continues to receive the dedicated and effective representation it deserves, safeguarding the progress we have made and honouring our community's unique identity.

Thank you for considering this objection.

Sincerely,



Bruce Tulloch.

Cammeray NSW 2062