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Patricia Gemmell

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I have lived in the suburb of Naremburn in the electorate of North Sydney for 41 years, and in Northbridge for about 5 years before that.

I am exceedingly saddened by the AEC's proposal to abolish the federal electorate of North Sydney. It is one of the original federal seats since Federation. That alone should make it worth keeping.

More importantly, however, in recent years, as I have found the time to become deeply politically engaged on many issues, I have become part of this electorate's dynamic and likeminded community. In the lead-up to the last election particularly, a community began to coalesce around an independent candidate. This vibrant community continues to exist and function to support the greater good of the people of this electorate. It is a thriving network that would be fractured and broken if the federal seat of North Sydney were to be abolished. For me and many others like me it has been a source of learning, friendship, communal activities and conviviality. It has been nothing short of amazing. Both my husband and I love being a part of it. To lose it will be a very great shame in a time when we need community more than ever.

Furthermore, I will be devastated to lose a Federal MP who has served us and the particular interests of North Sydney so well.

In short, I do oppose the proposed redistribution.