



Objection 602

Penny Scardifield 2 pages

From:
To: FedRedistribution - NSW

Subject: Objection to the proposal to abolish to seat of North Sydney

Date: Thursday, 11 July 2024 11:47:42 PM

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Dear Sir/Madam

I strongly object to the proposal to abolish the Federal Seat of North Sydney. I have been a very active member of this vibrant electorate and community in both a personal, professional and commercial capacity for over 60 years.

As an elected independent Councillor and Deputy Mayor of North Sydney Council (1995 to 2005) I held board positions on numerous committees and community organisations including James Milson Retirement Village, Nutcote Trust, The North Sydney Leisure Centre, The Crows Nest Community Centre, North Sydney Family Day Care & Occasional Care and was an inaugural board member of the Crows Nest Indoor Sports Centre.

In my professional life, I had several commercial tenancies in the electorate over many years employing staff and running a successful business in the financial services industry. I was also a student at North Sydney Girls High School from 1964-1969, have been a North Sydney resident since 1970, and a rate payer and home owner since 1980. I am now retired but still active in the community in a volunteer capacity and Treasurer of my strata building.

I do understand that the AEC is tasked with the difficult goal of having to even out the number of voters in each federal electorate Australia wide (approximately 117,000 per electorate). I am also cognisant that the AEC is not allowed to "cross mountain ranges" or "water courses" in their electoral boundary reviews every 7 years.

Abolishing the seat of North Sydney which has existed for 123 years as one of the original 75 federal electorates established on Federation in 1901 and to split it across three different electorates (Warringah, Bradfield and Bennelong) totally ignores the unique characteristics of our electorate, our strong sense of identity and social cohesion and the progress this electorate has made towards independent leadership.

North Sydney is also the 3rd largest CBD in the country and our commercial owners whilst eligible to vote in local elections are not represented on state or federal electoral rolls. Despite this fact your own published figures of electoral rolls Australia wide as at 31.3.24 shows North Sydney with 113,689 voters, Warringah 107,308 Bradfield 109,747 and Bennelong 117,555.

I also feel that you have not taken into consideration the huge infrastructure projects that are about to come on line in North Sydney with Sydney Metro, new heavy rail and State Government plans to see some 5,900 new homes built and approximatey 19,500 new residents expected to move into our area.

I urge you to maintain the proud sense of independence of the North Sydney Electorate which is again independently represented by Kylea Tink after the trail blazing independent Ted Mack. We certainly punch well above our weight in our contribution to building a

better Australia. Please do not destroy this by splitting us across three such widely different electorates. I would also appreciate being kept in touch with future developments to your current plans.

Penny Scardifield

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