



## Objection 76

Amy-Lee Young <sup>2 pages</sup>

 From:
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**Subject:** Higgins redistribution objection **Date:** Tuesday, 11 June 2024 9:08:41 PM

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Subject: Objection to the Abolition of the Federal Electoral Seat of Higgins

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Amy-Lee Young, and I am writing to express my profound objection to the proposed abolition of the federal electoral seat of Higgins in Melbourne. As a resident of Stonnington, I feel compelled to voice the concerns of my community regarding this significant change.

The proposal to dissolve Higgins and merge it into neighbouring electorates such as Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne is deeply troubling. The seat of Higgins has long been a cornerstone of our community, providing a unique and essential representation in federal politics. The abolition of Higgins will dilute the voice of Stonnington residents, reducing our influence and potentially leading to less tailored representation for our local needs.

Higgins is not just an electoral boundary; it is a vibrant community with a rich history and a distinct identity. From the elegant streets of South Yarra to the bustling markets of Prahran, Higgins embodies a unique blend of culture, heritage, and modernity. This identity will be disrupted if our community is fragmented and absorbed into different electorates with potentially divergent priorities.

Moreover, the abolition of Higgins will disrupt established political relationships. Our current MP has built strong connections with local residents and community groups, advocating for our needs and championing local causes. This change will inevitably lead to a loss of continuity and could result in the deprioritisation of ongoing local projects and initiatives. These projects, tailored to the specific needs of the Higgins community, may lose momentum under new representatives unfamiliar with our local context.

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

In light of these concerns, I urge the AEC to reconsider the decision to abolish the seat of Higgins. Maintaining the current electoral structure is crucial for the continued representation and advocacy of the Higgins community. Our unique identity, established political relationships, and ongoing local projects deserve to be preserved and supported.

Thank you for considering my objection. I trust that the AEC will take into account the significant impact this change will have on the residents of Higgins and make a decision that best serves our community.

Yours sincerely,		
Amy-Lee Young		