

Commonwealth of Australia

Writ for a Referendum

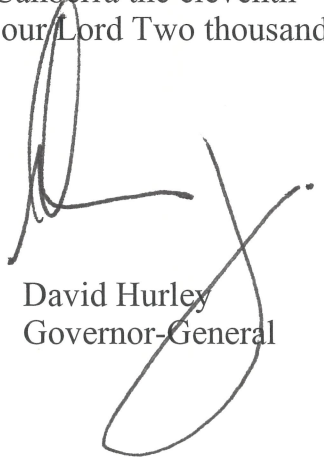
To **THOMAS JOSEPH ROGERS**, Electoral Commissioner.

I command you to cause a proposed law entitled Constitution Alteration (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice) 2023 to be submitted, according to law, in each State and in the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory, to the electors who are qualified to vote at referendums.

I appoint the following dates:

1. For the close of the Rolls: the eighteenth day of September 2023.
2. For taking the votes of the electors: the fourteenth day of October 2023.
3. For the return of the writ: on or before the twentieth day of December 2023.

His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley
AC DSC (Retd), Governor-General of the
Commonwealth of Australia at Canberra the eleventh
day of September in the year of our Lord Two thousand
and twenty-three.



David Hurley
Governor-General

By His Excellency's Command



Don Farrell
Special Minister of State

ENTERED ON RECORD BY ME IN REGISTER OF PATENTS, NO. 8, PAGE NO. 57, THIS ELEVENTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2023



SECRETARY FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



A PROPOSED LAW

To alter the Constitution to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice

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THIS Proposed Law originated in the House of Representatives, and on 19 June 2023, finally passed both Houses of the Parliament. There was an absolute majority of each House to the passing of this Proposed Law.


Speaker

Clareesa Surtees

Clerk of the House of Representatives
20 June 2023



A PROPOSED LAW

To alter the Constitution to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice

The Parliament of Australia, with the approval of the electors, as required by the Constitution, enacts:

1 Short title

This Act is the *Constitution Alteration (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice) 2023*.

2 Commencement

This Act commences on the day this Act receives the Royal Assent.

3 Schedule 1

The Constitution is altered as set out in Schedule 1.

Schedule 1—Alteration of the Constitution

1 Table of contents

After:

Chapter VIII Alteration of the Constitution

insert:

Chapter IX Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

2 After Chapter VIII

Insert:

**Chapter IX—Recognition of Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander Peoples**

129 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice

In recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of Australia:

- (i) there shall be a body, to be called the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice;
- (ii) the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice may make representations to the Parliament and the Executive Government of the Commonwealth on matters relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples;
- (iii) the Parliament shall, subject to this Constitution, have power to make laws with respect to matters relating to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice, including its composition, functions, powers and procedures.

(48/23)