



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Issue date: 30 July 2018

Interim report of the Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition

The [Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples](#) has presented its interim report to the Parliament.

The report centres on the proposal for a First Nations Voice, which arose from the *Uluru Statement from the Heart*. The report considers evidence in relation to the constitutionality, structure, function, and establishment of The Voice, and examines past and existing advisory bodies and new proposals that might inform the design of The Voice.

The report also considers other proposals for constitutional change and proposals for truth-telling and agreement making.

The Committee acknowledges the high level of interest in its inquiry, and wishes to thank the many individuals and organisations who made submissions and met with the Committee.

The Committee will continue to consult with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the broader community. The Committee is seeking additional submissions examining the principles and models outlined in the report, and addressing the questions posed in the final chapter. Additional submissions should be received by 17 September 2018.

The Committee acknowledges the frustration caused by the length of time taken to advance constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The Committee is hopeful that, through this inquiry, it can play a constructive role in developing proposals for the recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The Committee is due to present its final report to the Parliament on 29 November 2018.

The interim report is available on the Committee's website at: www.aph.gov.au/jsccr.

Media enquiries:

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For background information:

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