

To the Joint Select Committee on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice Referendum,

Support for the Voice

My name is Mark Elgar, an Australian citizen who migrated to Australia in 1970. I'm writing to express my support for the constitutional amendments that will be put to a national referendum later this year.

There are several compelling reasons to support this amendment to the constitution and provide Indigenous Australians with an enshrined mechanism to make representations to the Parliament and Executive Government.

First, updating the 122-year-old constitution to recognize Indigenous Australians, who have over 65,000 years of continuous Indigenous culture, is long overdue.

Second, we should make this change because legal experts including former High Court judges have confirmed that a Voice to Parliament is a legally safe way to constitutionally recognize Indigenous Australians.

Third, we should make this change because, very importantly, around 80% of Indigenous Australians support constitutional recognition in the form of a Voice to Parliament.

In short, supporting constitutional recognition through a Voice is the right, decent and civilized thing to do.

Yours sincerely,
Mark Elgar
Richmond, Victoria