



Council for  
Intellectual Disability



# The Voice to Parliament



[www.cid.org.au](http://www.cid.org.au)

First Nations people should be aware that this document may have images of people who have died.

# The Voice to Parliament



This Easy Read document is about the **Voice to Parliament**.

We will say **the Voice** for short.

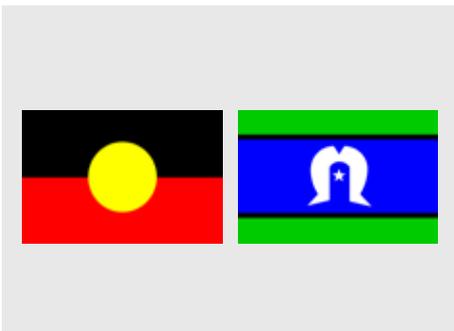


The **Parliament** is where a group of people agree about new rules for people in Australia.

The Parliament is part of the government.



The Voice is a way to include **First Nations** people in the **Constitution**.



**First Nations** people means Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



The **Constitution** is a set of rules about how to run Australia.



The Voice will make sure First Nations people can give advice to the Parliament.

The advice would be about rules and services that affect First Nations people.



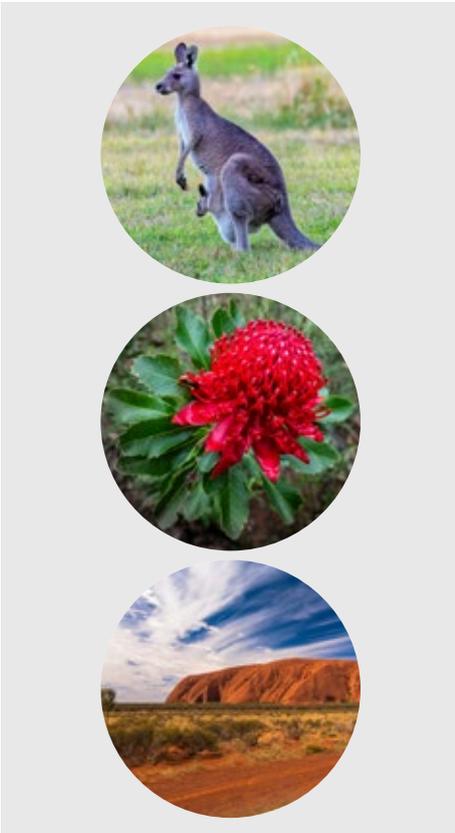
The Voice will mean that First Nations people can share

- Ideas
- Stories.

# Why is the Voice important?



First Nations people lived in Australia first.



First Nations people looked after the

- Animals
- Plants
- Land



People came to Australia from other countries.

They said Australia was theirs.



They did not treat First Nations people in a good way.



Many years ago the Constitution was written.



First Nations people did not have a say about it.



This means they did not get the same rights as other Australians.



In 1967 the Australian people voted to change the Constitution.

They voted that First Nations people should have the same **laws** as everyone else.



**Laws** are rules that everyone must follow.



This was a good change.



But First Nations people still did not have a say about the laws that affect them.



In 2017 many First Nations people agreed to the **Uluru Statement from the Heart**.



The **Uluru Statement from the Heart** is a paper that asks all Australians to include First Nations people through the Voice in the Constitution.



If people vote yes the Voice becomes part of the Constitution.



It will mean that First Nations people will get to have a say about

- Laws that affect them
- What choices are good for their community.

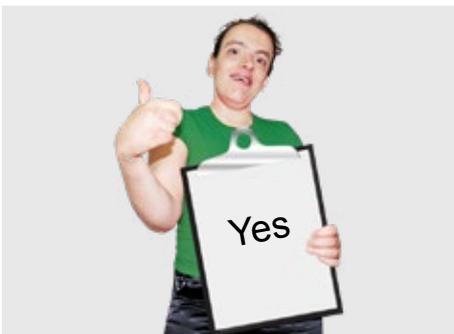
# How will the Voice vote happen?



We will vote to put a new rule in the Constitution.

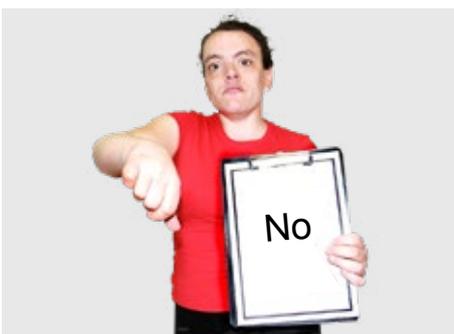


The vote would be saying yes or no.



If you vote yes you agree that

- The Constitution should be changed
- First Nations people should have a say about laws that affect them.



If you vote no you agree that

- The Constitution should stay the way it is
- First Nations people should not have a Voice to Parliament.



You must vote if

- You are 18 years or older
- You are an Australian citizen.



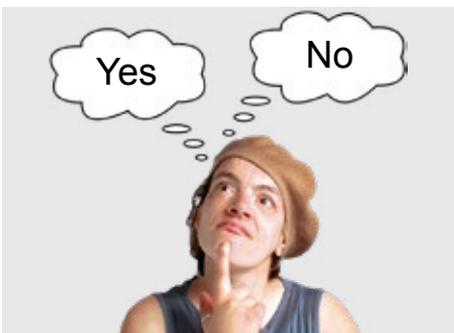
To change the Constitution 2 things need to happen.

More than half of voters in Australia need to say yes.



At least 4 of the 6 Australian states need to say yes.

The Australian Government must do what the voters decide.



You have the right to vote.

It is your choice how you want to vote.



## Contact CID



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You can contact CID at **[reconciliation@cid.org.au](mailto:reconciliation@cid.org.au)**.

CID works on Gadigal and Wiradjuri lands and many more lands in NSW.  
We show our respect to all First Nations people.  
We can learn many things all together.