



An Open Letter to the Australian Parliament

A Voice to Parliament will improve health outcomes

We confidently believe that the proposed Voice will enhance government decision making about matters that affect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, ultimately improving health outcomes.

As health professionals, we witness firsthand the disparity in health outcomes between non-Indigenous Australians and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Despite the best efforts of successive governments at all levels, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples continue to have an average life expectancy gap of 8.2 years compared to other Australians. The Voice is an opportunity for us to make a practical difference, to ensure the gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians does not continue to widen.

We encourage all Australians to actively consider the possible health and wellbeing benefits that the Voice to Parliament would have for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Just as a good clinician listens to their patient, a Voice to Parliament is about listening to the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

		The National Heart	Community Controlled Health
	Australian Primary Health	The Fred Hollows	
	Consumers Health Forum		
Surgeons	Public Health Association of		
	Health Services Union	Mental Health Foundation	
	United Workers Union	Telethon Kids Institute	
	Mental Health Australia	Stroke Foundation	
	The Australian	Diabetes Australia	
		Kidney Health Australia	
The Australian College of Optometry	Research Institute		
	Sydney Children's Hospitals		
Society of Hospital Pharmacists of	Australian Women's Health	COTA Australia	
Rural Doctors Association of Australia	Doctors Reform Society		
Australian Psychological Society	The Shepherd Centre	Hearing Care Industry	
Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences	Health Equity Matters	Australian Global Health	
	LG BTIQ + Health Australia	ASHM Health	
	People with HIV Australia	SANE Australia	
Research Institutes		The Matilda Centre for Research in Mental Health and Substance Use	
The Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs			
	Health Justice Australia		
Australian Alcohol and other Drugs	Australasian Institute of Digital Health	Smoking and Health	
Australian Health Promotion		Alcohol and Drug	