

Belinda Kerrison

[REDACTED], The Hill, NSW 2300

To Co-Design Body

Submission to Co-design process

I live in Newcastle and work in public health research at the University of Newcastle.

The Uluru Statement is a much-needed straightforward request by First Nations for all of Australia to tell the truth about our history. Australia's First Nations never ceded their sovereignty, and they deserve to have a constitutional voice in our nation's decision-making.

A Voice to Parliament will improve the lives of all First Nations and this will have knock-on effects for all communities, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous.

Legislation is not enough. Our First Nations deserve a constitutional Voice to Parliament that cannot be extinguished at the whim of a government.

Only Indigenous people know what their communities need. We need to listen to them when it comes to matters that affect them. They deserve to have the power to make decisions about their own lives.

Kind regards,
Belinda Kerrison