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To whom it may concern

Submission to Co-design process

I am from the beautiful Noosa on the Sunshine Coast, however, I currently, work and study in Brisbane. I am studying my Masters of Teaching and have a Bachelor of Arts in History and Peace and Conflict Studies. I work at a primary school in their outside school hours care and have a strong belief in fostering the importance of Indigenous voices in young learners.

Why do you think the Uluru Statement from the Heart is important?

The Uluru Statement from the Heart provides an avenue for peace and reconciliation. It is important that First Nations Peoples have a direct say in laws and policies that effect them, and statement provides a roadmap to include their voices.

Why is it important for Indigenous people to have a say in the matters that affect them?

Australian society is deeply rooted in policy and legislation that has not only discriminated against First Nations Peoples but further disenfranchised them. A voice enshrined in the constitution provides an opportunity to reshape Australian society and cement the foundations of respect and acknowledgment within institutions.

Why do you think it's important to enshrine the Voice to Parliament in the Constitution, rather than include it only in legislation?

Symbolic acceptance is not enough. The constitution is our most valued document, therefore, enshrining a voice within it promotes real action.

How could a Voice to Parliament improve the lives of your community?

Being involved in education, I understand the importance of First Nations perspectives in the classroom. I believe a Voice to Parliament would ensure that First Nations People play a valuable role in shaping institutions including education so that the student experience includes a both ways approach, valuing both western and Indigenous understandings.

Kind regards,
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