



PRIME MINISTER
The Hon Anthony Albanese MP

Reference: MS23-000895

His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia
Government House
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600

Your Excellency

On 19 June 2023, the Australian Parliament passed the *Constitution Alteration (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice) 2023*, a proposed law to alter the Constitution of Australia. A copy of this proposed law is attached to this letter.

I recommend that the proposed law be put to electors for their consideration in a referendum poll to be held on 14 October 2023.

Noted

I seek your approval for a special meeting of the Federal Executive Council on or before 11 September 2023 to enable your consideration of the writ for this referendum.

I also seek your agreement to make an announcement of the intended date of the referendum in advance of this meeting of the Federal Executive Council.

Agreed.

If the writ for the referendum is issued, consistent with section 12 of the *Referendum (Machinery Provisions) Act 1984*, I recommend that you immediately forward:

- copies of the writ and proposed law to State Governors, the Chief Minister for the Australian Capital Territory and the Administrator of the Northern Territory; and
- the original writ and a copy of the proposed law to the Australian Electoral Commissioner.

Noted.

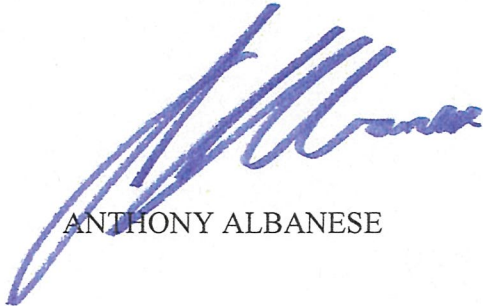
I will write to the State and Territory Premiers and Chief Ministers to advise them I have recommended you issue a writ for a referendum poll on 14 October 2023.

I would appreciate your confirmation, in accordance with established practice, that you have no objection to the public release of this letter and your reply, at an appropriate time.

Agreed.

A copy of this letter has been sent to Senator the Hon Don Farrell, Special Minister of State, the Hon Mark Dreyfus KC MP, Attorney-General, and the Hon Linda Burney MP, Minister for Indigenous Australians.

Yours faithfully



ANTHONY ALBANESE



His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

28 August 2023

The Honourable Anthony Albanese MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your letter received today in relation to the proposed law to alter the Constitution of Australia in accordance with the *Constitution Alteration (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice) 2023*.

I note your recommendation to hold the referendum on Saturday 14 October 2023, and am agreeable to convening a special meeting of the Federal Executive Council on or before 11 September 2023 to enable my consideration of the writ for the referendum in accordance with Part II of the *Referendum (Machinery Provisions) Act 1984* (the Act). I also note under section 12 of the Act, once the writ is issued I will immediately forward:

- a. copies of the writ and proposed law to State Governors, the Chief Minister for the Australian Capital Territory and the Administrator of the Northern Territory, and
- b. the original writ and a copy of the proposed law to the Australian Electoral Commissioner.

I am agreeable to you making an announcement of the intended date of the referendum in advance of the meeting of the Federal Executive Council and before the writ is issued, and I have no objection to the public release of your letter and this reply at an appropriate time.

Yours sincerely