

Att:

Mr Pat Anderson AO
Mr Mark Leibler AC
Co-Chairs, Referendum Council

Dear Sirs,

I refer to your letter of 18 April 2017 regarding the consultation process on options for constitutional change.

The letter states "The only way we will succeed in making this constitutional change is if people throughout Australia understand and support what is proposed."

This is clearly a partisan position regarding the outcome, indicating the consultation process is merely intended to fine tune the message in order to achieve that outcome. It's little more than a giant focus group.

Accordingly, I am advising you of my position, which does not correspond with yours.

I am in favour of removing sections 25 and 51(26), in order to render all Australians equal in the Constitution.

I oppose the insertion of any other sections that refer to race, including a preamble or a new section allowing the Commonwealth government to make laws that apply only to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. I also oppose a constitutional prohibition on racial discrimination, a separate parliament for Indigenous Australians, reserved seats for Aboriginals in parliament, a treaty, or any other race-based provisions.

My position is based on the clear principle of opposition to racism in all forms. That includes purported positive discrimination as well as negative discrimination.

I will of course make my views known wherever possible.

Regards,



Senator David Leyonhjelm

Liberal Democratic Party

PO Box 636 Drummoyne NSW 1470

Parliament house: (02) 6277 3054 Electorate office: (02) 9719 1078

www.davidleyonhjelm.com.au www.ldp.org.au