

CALL THIS A HOME ?

CAMPAIGN FOR SAFE ROOMING HOUSES IN VICTORIA

www.callthisahome.net

MEDIA STATEMENT

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COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN WELCOMES LEGISLATIVE ACTION ON ROOMING HOUSES

Today the Victorian Parliament made significant amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act. This is an important step toward improving the regulation of the rooming house sector in Victoria.

The amendments include provisions which:

- Empower Consumer Affairs Victoria to investigate tenancy law breaches without the requirement to receive a formal complaint from rooming house residents
- Require rooming house operators to comply with prescribed privacy, safety, security and amenity standards
- Require landlords and estate agents to inform local government if they have reason to believe their property is being used as a rooming house but is not registered
- Protect rooming house residents from eviction where a rooming house manager is operating under a head tenancy

The community campaign advocated strongly for these reforms and believes that these new legislative requirements will significantly improve the condition and operation of the thousands of rooming houses in which vulnerable and low income households live.

Call This A Home? is a coalition of peak bodies, organisations and individuals committed to safe rooming houses in Victoria. Campaign members include the Tenants Union of Victoria (TUV), the Council to Homeless Persons (CHP), Victorian Council of Social Services (VCOSS) and the Community Housing Federation of Victoria (CHFV) and more than 40 housing and community organisations.

For interview arrangements and further information:

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