

23 May 2018

Residential Tenancies Legislation

Proposed changes to the Residential Tenancies laws could see nearly 200 amendments to the current Act.

While some of these changes will be positive, the majority will not. The 14 reforms highlighted by the Andrews' Government in October 2017 are cause for concern and demonstrate the unbalanced approach to this review.

The so-called *Rentfair* package the government has signalled is actually unfair. It will bestow new rights on tenants and place greater responsibilities on landlords. (See [here](#) for more information.)

There is a strong indication that the government will very soon introduce a Bill into the Parliament to enshrine these lop-sided changes into law.

We have one last chance to voice our opposition to the Government's reforms and to influence the vote of cross-benchers in the Upper House.

We urge you to fill in the [petition](#) and tell our politicians where you stand.

In this election year, let them know:

- YOU oppose the removal of the 120-day Notice to Vacate for 'No Specified Reason'
- YOU oppose the capping of bonds
- YOU oppose the loss of your right to consent to pets
- YOU oppose the loss of your right to approve property modifications
- YOU want a more balanced approach to the review of the legislation

Passage of these and other reforms will impose greater obligations and costs on landlords.

In the longer term, many of these reforms, should they be enacted, will not prove beneficial for tenants either, as leasing a property will become more expensive as owners will seek to recoup their costs.

You should not under-estimate the power of the people, particularly when the next Victorian election is just six months away.

Over 13 thousand people – landlords, tenants, estate agents and others – have already made their feelings known by signing this [petition](#) and we urge you to act NOW if you haven't done so already.

Your voice can make a difference.