

AIIC ENCOURAGES VICTORIA TO STAY THE COURSE ON MINIMUM ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS IN RENTALS

November 26, 2024

The Affiliated Insulation Industry Coalition (AIIC) has expressed disappointment that the Victorian Government has failed to announce minimum energy efficiency standards for rental homes.

While the <u>government's announcement</u> to mandate securing blind and curtain cords in rentals and installing fixed heaters in rooming houses by 2030 is a positive step, it falls well short of addressing the unacceptable living conditions faced by many renters.

"Renters deserve homes that are safe, healthy, and affordable to run," said AIIC Chair, Janine Strachan.

"The measures initially proposed for minimum energy efficiency standards will go a long way to improving the lives of vulnerable Victorians, ensuring homes achieve safe indoor temperatures and reducing energy costs. People need these changes now, not in the distant future."

Currently, many Victorian renters are missing out on the significant health benefits that come from improved thermal performance and efficient electric heating and cooling systems. These improvements ensure healthier indoor air temperatures, reducing the risk of heat stress and cold-related illnesses. For vulnerable groups such as children, the elderly, and those with chronic health conditions, the difference can be life changing.

The AIIC notes that the government has left the door open to future implementation of minimum energy performance standards for rentals. We encourage the Victorian Government to stay the course on the original measures proposed, particularly insulation, draught sealing, and efficient electric space heating and cooling.

These reforms are critical to ensuring that Victorian renters can live in homes that are comfortable, healthy, and cost effective to heat and cool and should be progressed guickly.

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