

**14 November 2025**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **SCCA WELCOMES VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT'S NEW WORKER ASSAULT AND VEHICLE RAM-RAID LAWS; AND COMMITMENT TO WORKPLACE PROTECTION ORDERS**

The Shopping Centre Council of Australia (SCCA) has welcomed the Victorian Government's announcement to introduce tough new laws that will help protect workers, including shopping centre security guards, cleaners as well as retail workers, along with other measures including vehicle ram-raids being upgraded to an aggravated burglary offence.

The Government has also announced a commitment to introduce legislation for Workplace Protection Orders in April 2026.

The SCCA strongly supports any measure that targets and helps to reduce crime and violence in retail settings, and acknowledges the Victorian Government in prioritising victims and worker safety.

**Angus Nardi, Chief Executive of the SCCA said:** "We strongly support the Victorian Government's introduction of tough new laws to reduce crime, prioritise victims and help protect workers, including shopping centre security guards and cleaners, along with retail and other workers."

"We strongly support the Government upgrading vehicle ram-raids to be an aggravated burglary offence, as it carries stronger penalties and reflects the significant harm and impacts of such incidents."

"Our industry commends Premier Jacinta Allan for today's announcement, and the Government's engagement with our industry on these measures."

"Today's announcement by Premier Jacinta Allan is a great step forward to tackle retail and violent crime – full stop."

"Shopping centres are safe places, but we have seen an increase in violent incidents, including the use of weapons, motor-vehicles, and from repeat offenders."

"Just last week, a shopping centre security guard was badly assaulted, and today's announcement will send a strong message that violent behaviour and conduct is unacceptable and has serious consequences," Mr Nardi said.

The SCCA and its industry partners recently launched their annual national '*Be Kind in Retail*' campaign, which encourages respectful and kindness towards all workers in retail settings and is running across digital screens in shopping centres and retailers.

"With the recent commencement of our annual '*Be Kind in Retail*' campaign, Premier Allan's announcement today is wonderful timing particularly as we're in the busy Christmas trading period."

"We look forward to continuing our engagement with the Victorian Government and Victoria Police on issues relating to retail crime."

"We thank Victoria Police for the incredibly important work that they do in keeping the community safe."

*The Shopping Centre Council of Australia is the leading voice for shopping centre owners across Australia.*

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