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## MEDIA RELEASE

### **QUEENSLAND RETAIL TENANCY REVIEW AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PRACTICAL REFORM**

The Shopping Centre Council of Australia (SCCA) has welcomed the Queensland Government's review of the *Retail Shop Leases Act 1994*, saying the review provides an opportunity for practical reform to ensure a sensible, robust and modern retail tenancy framework.

The Government's *Discussion Paper* includes 19 questions covering a range of issues including scope and coverage, disclosure statements and outgoings.

**Angus Nardi, Chief Executive of the SCCA said:** "Our industry welcomes the Queensland Government's review of its retail tenancy framework, which provides an opportunity for sensible industry engagement and practical reform."

"Ahead of the review, with our retail industry partners, we wrote to the Government to urge them to ensure a targeted and practical review approach, and the early signs are positive."

"With the Federal Government having a renewed focus on retail tenancy harmonisation across all jurisdictions, as part of their Productivity Package, Queensland also has an opportunity to work with our industry to lead on harmonisation opportunities."

"The SCCA has a long history of engagement on retail tenancy reviews, and we recently updated our internal analysis of previous reviews and legislation across Australia, and it's clear that much of the heavy lifting on core legal and leasing principles has been done and settled."

"Queensland's last review more than a decade ago was incredibly comprehensive, which the SCCA was deeply engaged in, with around 40% of proposed reforms being enacted and which laid strong foundations."

"There are certainly some opportunities for practical reform, particularly to help ensure that the retail leasing process is clearer and smoother including through the removal of procedural red tape. There is certainly no need for the review to reinvent the wheel and get bogged down," Mr Nardi said.

The SCCA will lead the landlord industry's representations on the review and looks forward to engaging with retail industry partners and the Government through the review process.

*The SCCA is the national industry group for major shopping centre owner and operators.*

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