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MEDIA RELEASE

SCCA WELCOMES VICTORIAN PREMIER'S ELECTION COMMITMENT TO IMPLEMENT JACK'S LAW STOP AND SEARCH POWERS

The Shopping Centre Council of Australia (SCCA) has welcomed Premier Ben Carroll's election commitment to implement the Queensland model 'Jack's Law', providing Victoria Police with the power to wand people for dangerous weapons at public places, including shopping centres.

The Premier's election commitment includes providing Victoria Police with 1,200 new modern hand-held wand scanners to strengthen the capability of frontline officers.

The SCCA has long advocated for stronger weapon detection powers in shopping centres, including supporting Jack's Law when it passed through the Queensland Parliament to apply to shopping centres in 2024, and the Queensland Government making Jack's Law permanent in 2025.

Angus Nardi, Chief Executive of the SCCA said: "We welcome Premier Carroll's election commitment to implement Jack's Law, which is a proven model that removes dangerous weapons from people in public places including shopping centres", said Mr Nardi.

"Our industry backed the application of Jack's Law to shopping centres in Queensland, and since that time it has helped uplift the safety of customers and workers", said Mr Nardi.

"Our highest priority is ensuring the community's safety and security, and there is no place for dangerous weapons in our shopping centres", said Mr Nardi.

"Any measure that provides Victoria Police with the powers they need to remove dangerous weapons from people is strongly supported, particularly as Victoria Police's *Operation Pulse* continues with PSOs deployed across targeted shopping centres across the Melbourne area".

"We acknowledge the Jack Beasley Foundation, and the Beasley family, for their for incredible campaigning and advocacy on knife crime and community safety issues", Mr Nardi said.

The SCCA also acknowledged the important and challenging work undertaken by Victoria Police and PSOs in keeping the community safe.

"We also acknowledge the Victorian Opposition's commitment on 17 November 2025, to introduce Jack's Law as part of their 'Retail Crime Crackdown', which we publicly welcomed at the time", said Mr Nardi.

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

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