

# media release



**MASTERS OF OUR INDUSTRY**

Master Builders Association of Victoria  
ABN: 38 004 255 654

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## **Revamp of Building Regulator opens door for reform**

Master Builders has supported plans to overhaul Victoria's building regulator, saying it is a win for builders and consumers.

The Baillieu Government will create a new building authority following serious concerns raised by the Auditor-General and ahead of an Ombudsman's report expected to be presented to State Parliament next month.

"The events leading to this announcement have brought our industry into disrepute and action is absolutely necessary to restore the public's faith in the building system," said Executive Director Brian Welch.

"With construction activity down in many parts of the state, the 220,000 hard-working Victorians employed in the building industry cannot afford to have perceptions of the regulator erode confidence within the industry."

Mr Welch stated that revamping the industry's regulator presented opportunities for much-needed reform to secure jobs and investment.

"Our residential building disputes process is in dire need of reform as it fails both builders and consumers," said Mr Welch.

"We need a new, simple, practical and cost-effective process to help resolve disputes quickly and efficiently.

"Government also needs to look at registering more people working in the building industry to enhance skills, construction quality and productivity.

"Action is also required to better regulate owner-builders, who account for the construction of one in every four new houses in Victoria.

"Our owner-builder activity is significantly higher than other parts of the country, which is undermining the work of registered builders and jeopardising the quality of Victoria's housing stock.

"We welcome moves to revamp the building regulator, but they will fail if we do not seize the opportunity to implement broader reforms for our industry."

**Media enquiries:**

Laura Luvara, Media Adviser, 03 9411 4534, 0466 777 059

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