

media release



MASTERS OF OUR INDUSTRY

Master Builders Association of Victoria
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Hammer taken to productivity and harmony on Victoria's building sites

The Master Builders Association of Victoria has described the passage of Federal laws to abolish the Australian Building and Construction Commission (ABCC) as a dark day for Victoria's building industry.

"We have seen nearly 28,000 Victorian building jobs lost since November and the Federal Government's response is to pass laws that will make work more difficult and less productive on construction sites," said Executive Director Brian Welch.

"It is a dark day for our state's building industry, which Victorians rely on to deliver their homes, offices, workplaces, schools, hospitals and other vital infrastructure.

"The ABCC has made great strides in restoring law, order and harmony in our sector but its goal of achieving long-term cultural change on our building sites is far from complete.

"We wanted to see policies to help drive productivity growth but instead our industry has awoken this week to find a government-sponsored noose around its neck."

The new laws will see the ABCC replaced with a new Inspectorate with watered-down powers.

"A bright green light has been given to building unions responsible for major delays and cost blowouts on projects like the West Gate Bridge upgrade and the Melbourne Markets relocation," Mr Welch said.

"Victorians will be left to foot the increased bills that result from the return of thuggery, intimidation and coercion to our construction sites that these laws will permit."

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