

From: Jane Schleiger [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 7 December 2019 1:06 PM
To: DJCS-CAV-rentalreforms (DJCS)
Cc: act@tenantsvic.org.au
Subject: My submission on energy efficiency issues for renters

From: Jane Schleiger [REDACTED]
Subject: My submission on energy efficiency issues for renters My postcode: [REDACTED]

My submission:

I have rented for over 25 years- most of my adult life. I have lived in a range of rental properties in that time, some appalling hovels with black mould growing in bedrooms and earth smells emanating for gaps in the floor, through to well-maintained civilised houses with air-conditioning and proper heating. I have been fully employed with a fair to middling income, and particularly lately, have been able to rent mid-range rental properties with good friends. In all that time, regardless of my income and circumstances, in only one place has the landlord agreed to install air conditioning at our request. This occurred after spending one summer in the house, where the temperature in the upstairs bedrooms regularly hit 35 degrees in mid-summer. We have been lucky in our landlords on this occasion in that they recognise good tenants and see the value in retaining us, and adding value to the property. In all my other rentals, both summer and winter have been difficult, and often dreaded, being either too hot or too cold. I have had no option to install energy efficient modifications to a property to ensure I have a sustainable way of managing temperature control, and the amount I pay energy companies. I actually find ads about solar heating quite grating now as I know that unless I own a property of my own, I will never be able to reap the rewards of installing this energy solution. Whether we own or rent, we all need to be afforded the same opportunities to respond to the collective challenges posed by changes in our climate. If landlords were subsidised and supported to install energy efficient heating and cooling solutions in rental properties, we would all win on this particular issue.

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