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Sent: Saturday, 7 December 2019 2:47 PM
To: DJCS-CAV-rentalreforms (DJCS)
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Subject: My submission on unfair lease conditions

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Subject: My submission on unfair lease conditions My postcode: [REDACTED]

My submission:

The government has misled the public on pets in rentals. Having made such a high profile campaign about how shocking it is that pets turn up at shelters, or people are made homeless because of the whimsy of landlords, it is astounding the Labor Govt has decided to backtrack and discriminate against renters on this matter.

The draft "amendment" is no different to the current unregulated situation which leaves people and pets highly vulnerable. The new legislation for pets and renting should be no different to that put forward for Children and Renting ie:

A landlord or agent cannot refuse to rent out premises to a person with a pet, except in certain cases. These include if the:

property is the landlord's main residence property's location and design make it unsuitable for occupation by that pet.

If a person believes a property is suitable for a pet after being told it is unsuitable, they may apply to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT), which will decide the matter.

Contrary to what the government would like the general public to believe, companion animals are a huge emotional assistance to individuals in contemporary Australia - especially those seeking rental accommodation in times of drought, after a disaster, those with mental health issues, those recovering from major health or trauma including family violence - the list goes on.

This information and more was submitted by a trusting public in the consultation period but really shows Victorians how much their consultation matters to state governments, because it has been quite simply ignored here. I hope that good political sense prevails - now that there are more renters than landlords of voting age.

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This submission to the Victorian Government consultation on the RTA Regulatory Impact Statement was sent via Tenants Victoria's website. It represents the views of the author only and does not represent the views of Tenants Victoria.