

MEDIA RELEASE

14 November, 2025

Bunnings statement: In response to the Victorian Government's announcement of new laws to keep retail workers safe from assault and abuse

Comments attributable to Bunnings Managing Director, Mike Schneider:

We welcome the Victorian Government's commitment to stronger measures that protect retail workers, including the introduction of Workplace Protection Orders. These steps are vital to addressing the unacceptable rise in retail crime in Victoria and ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our team members and customers.

Everyone has the right to be safe at work and while shopping. Abuse, threats, or violence against anyone doing their job or going about their day are completely unacceptable. This commitment sends a clear message that action has to be taken in Victoria and the safety of retail workers is non-negotiable.

Bunnings has been a leading advocate for action to address the very serious issue of retail crime, alongside other retailers and industry stakeholders, for some time. Retail crime has escalated into a safety crisis for frontline workers. These measures show a willingness to recognise the seriousness of retail crime and its community impacts, and are an important step towards ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our team members.

We will continue to work closely with the Victorian Government, as well as industry stakeholders, to see these changes implemented swiftly and effectively, so that retail workers can feel safe and supported in their workplaces. In the meantime, we hope that this announcement deters those who are committing crimes in our stores, many of whom are repeat offenders.

At Bunnings, the safety of our team, customers and suppliers is our top priority and we will continue work with governments, industry bodies and unions to strengthen protections and push for legislative change to better support frontline retail workers.

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About Bunnings

Bunnings is the leading retailer of home and lifestyle products for consumer and commercial customers in Australia and New Zealand. We are a major supplier to project builders, commercial tradespeople and the housing industry. Our store network is made up of 285 large warehouse stores, 68 smaller format stores, 29 trade centres and 7 frame & truss sites. In April 2020, Bunnings acquired South Australian retailer Adelaide Tools (now Tool Kit Depot), which now has 17 stores, and acquired Beaumont Tiles in November 2021 which has 112 stores.

