

# Media Release

The Hon Nick Staikos MP  
Minister for Consumer Affairs  
Minister for Local Government



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## NEW BLIND CORD STANDARDS TO PROTECT KIDS

The Allan Labor Government is making sure Victorian rental properties are safe for children with new blind cord safety minimum standards in effect from this week.

Unsecured blind or curtain cords claim the lives of up to two Australian children every year – that’s why it’s now mandatory to secure all internal window coverings with a cord guide or cleat fixed to a wall or structure.

Blind cord installation standards are already in place under national product safety laws. However, these standards only apply to blinds installed after 2015, with those installed prior exempt from these standards.

The changes, which took effect from Monday 1 December, supersede these exemptions, by requiring all Victorian rental properties to meet this critical safety standard for curtains or blinds, regardless of installation date.

Tenants now have the right to request urgent repairs to non-compliant blind cords and give tenants the right to install blind cleats or guides themselves, without permission from the rental provider or agent.

It is also an offence for providers to allow tenants to move into a property that does not meet minimum standards, including blind cord safety requirements. There are now 15 categories of minimum standards for rental properties in Victoria, and it is law that all rental properties meet these standards.

Free curtain and blind cord safety kits are available from Consumer Affairs Victoria and include a device that tensions looped cords to a window frame, so they are no longer loose, reducing the likelihood of strangulation.

From 25 November 2025, it also became an offence for a rental provider or agent to advertise or offer a property to let that does not meet minimum standards.

For more info or to order your free curtain and blind cord safety kit, visit [consumer.vic.gov.au/blindcordsafety](https://consumer.vic.gov.au/blindcordsafety).

### Quote attributable to Minister for Consumer Affairs Nick Staikos

*“The safety of children is non-negotiable and that’s why we’ve implemented these new safety standards. This will save lives and is an important reminder to rental providers to ensure looped cords in every room meet mandatory standards.”*

### Quote attributable to Kidsafe Victoria CEO Sarah Sexton

*“Kidsafe Victoria is pleased to see the new blind cord safety standard for rental properties come into effect this week – We are incredibly grateful for the many voices who have championed this reform, so that no other family has to experience the heartbreak of losing a child from such a preventable injury.”*