



SEMMA

SOUTH EAST MELBOURNE MANUFACTURERS ALLIANCE

SEMMA supports Move On Laws for LandForces

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MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA - The South East Melbourne Manufacturers Alliance (SEMMA) strongly supports the announcement that the Victoria Police have been granted special police powers under the Terrorism (Community Protection) Act ahead of LandForces 2024.

SEMMA CEO Honi Walker said, "SEMMA welcomes this timely initiative, along with the reinstatement of 'move on' laws in Victoria, as it empowers Police to maintain public safety by removing masked protesters who may pose security risks, ensuring law-abiding citizens can conduct their business peacefully and securely".

SEMMA has been calling for the repeal of the Government's "The Summary Offences Amendment (Move-On Laws) Bill 2015.

"These laws have hamstrung Police during protests at member sites, impacting their employees accessing their sites and their right to conduct law-abiding business", said Ms Walker.

SEMMA is pleased our call for a co-ordinated and proactive national response from Federal and State governments and Police to stamp out these non-peaceful protests is the beginning of a complete national alignment of all States on the issue, as this action will reduce the risk to our Sovereign Capability and secure our international relations with our greatest ally.

SEMMA's members are well established and well-respected employers within their respective communities.

However, recent protests from a minority have deeply impacted these manufacturers.

These companies and their employees are being strategically targeted by militant protest groups under the guise of anti-war propaganda.

These protests have ranged in severity including blockading access to workplaces, trespassing, staff intimidation and harassment, theft and property damage.

All of these protests have required an enormous amount of public and private resources to prepare and respond to including additional security personnel, leadership meetings to manage staff, increase in physical security systems, emergency services including police and fire brigade responses, road closures and additional reporting requirements for defence.

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"SEMMA is the Voice for Manufacturers in the south east of Melbourne. We have been advocating on behalf of our members for 21 years. In that time, manufacturers have contributed to the economic growth of our state and indeed our nation. Currently, the south east region generates \$54b in gross regional product and employs over 200,000 people and is the heartland of manufacturing, we will continue to advocate for our members," said Ms Walker

ABOUT SEMMA

*SEMMA, the South East Melbourne Manufacturers Alliance, is a membership-based organization that represents the interests of manufacturing businesses in the South East Melbourne region. The South East region of Melbourne generates \$54b in gross regional product, hosts 50% of Melbourne's manufacturing jobs employing 232,903 people and provides 24% of Victoria's overall \$227b manufacturing output. *Data from Remplan CGD 2024*

SOUTH EAST MELBOURNE MANUFACTURERS ALLIANCE

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NOTE TO EDITORS

CEO is available for comment on request.

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