

Media Release

The Hon Natalie Hutchins MP
Minister for Government Services
Minister for Treaty and First Peoples
Minister for Prevention of Family Violence
Minister for Women



Friday, 7 March 2025

SAFE AND FAIR WORKPLACES FOR WOMEN

The Albanese Labor Government leads the nation on gender equality – but women still face disproportionate levels of harassment, discrimination, abuse and underpayment at work.

Minister for Women Natalie Hutchins today announced a \$5.5 million investment in a new *Safe Workplaces for Women Initiative*, which will change culture and attitudes to women in the workplace.

Working in partnership with both employees and employers through Victorian Trades Hall Council (VTHC), the Victorian Chamber of Industry and Commerce (VCCI) and the Working Women’s Centre Victoria, the initiative will drive action to make sure people understand their rights, their legal obligations and can access support.

The Labor Government is leading the way on changing culture to make sure women feel safe, heard and included. One in three workers has experienced sexual harassment in the workplace in the last five years, and they face significant barriers in resolving issues.

Victorian Trades Hall Council will deliver safe workplaces training and conduct outreach with women workers to respond to the issues impacting them at work.

The Victorian Chamber of Industry and Commerce will be supported to work with small to medium size businesses to understand their legal obligations and address important gender issues in the workplace.

The Working Women’s Centre Victoria, primarily funded by the Albanese Labor Government, will use funding to expand their rural and regional outreach services so that every woman across Victoria can access legal support and services.

The Labor Government’s *Safe Workplaces for Women Initiative* is part of the *Strengthening Women’s Safety Package* announced last year – driving action at every stage to better respond to victims, deliver a stronger justice response that holds offenders to account, and continuing our world-leading prevention response.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Women Natalie Hutchins

“We are listening and we know that to change culture, we need to make workplaces safe, equal and inclusive for women – regardless of where they live or what they do.”

“This is another step towards making a better, fairer and more inclusive Victoria for all.”