

## Media release

January 24 2013

---

### SUBMISSIONS SHOW REAL ESTATE MUST BE MOVED TO SECOND WAVE OF NATIONAL LICENSING

The Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA) has received strong support of its views regarding the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) proposed national licensing of the real estate profession.

Submissions received in response to COAG's Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) on property occupations have been published on the National Occupational Licensing Authority (NOLA) website.

"The results are in," says President of the Real Estate Institute of Australia, Mr Peter Bushby. "The RIS is flawed, the process not inclusive and the resulting model for national licensing would leave the consumer at considerable risk."

REIA states that the key to providing a low-risk professional service to home buyers is through a high level of initial qualification and through compulsory ongoing professional development to maintain these standards and to keep abreast of the changing regulatory environment that agents operate in.

The peak body for the real estate profession in Australia says there is need for an adequate level of training and professionalism across the spectrum of real estate transactions. With more individuals having an exposure to commercial real estate, it is equally important that buyers and sellers are receiving sound support by having the sale of commercial property undertaken by a licensed professional.

"The RIS erodes standards, removes the requirement for commercial agents to be licensed and abolishes compulsory professional development for agents. If these proposals are put into practice, it's the consumer who will suffer," he said.

"From the responses to the RIS and an independent survey, it is clear the proposal is out of step with the expectations of the Australian public. Real estate must be moved to the second tranche with the other property occupations to allow time for the alignment of national harmonisation, rather than rushing us through to a pre-concluded and disastrous outcome," concluded Mr Bushby.

REIA said the Government had a moral imperative to take into account the majority views in the property occupation submissions when delivering the Decision RIS.

REIA's full submission can be found at [http://reia.com.au/userfiles/MEDIARELEASE\\_1350876017.pdf](http://reia.com.au/userfiles/MEDIARELEASE_1350876017.pdf)

UMR Research survey and state/territory breakdown available at <http://reia.com.au/real-estate-media-release.php>

**The Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA) is the national professional association for real estate agents in Australia. For further information or interview opportunities, please contact:**

**Peter Bushby**  
**Amanda Lynch**  
**Andrea Close**

**REIA President**  
**REIA CEO**  
**REIA Manager Communications**

**0419349500**  
**0419 123 862**  
**0403 298 685**

