

# Media Release



**The Hon Martin Pakula MP**  
Attorney-General  
Minister for Racing

Wednesday, 1 July, 2015

## **VICTORIA AND NSW TAKE FIRST STEP TOWARDS A NATIONAL LEGAL SCHEME**

Attorney-General Martin Pakula today welcomed the commencement of the Legal Profession Uniform Law in Victoria and New South Wales.

From today, a common legal services market across the two states will be regulated under a Uniform Law overseen by an inter-jurisdictional Legal Services Council.

With 70 per cent of Australia's lawyers operating in Victoria and New South Wales, the alignment will make it simpler for lawyers to do business across state borders, make Australia more accessible to international legal services markets, and improve protections for clients.

Further information on the Uniform Law is available from the website of the Victorian Legal Services Board, at [http://lsbc.vic.gov.au/?page\\_id=568](http://lsbc.vic.gov.au/?page_id=568)

### **Quotes attributable to Attorney-General, Martin Pakula**

*"From today, lawyers and their clients will begin to see benefits in reduced red tape, greater interstate consistency and improved consumer protections."*

*"The introduction of Uniform Law in Victoria and NSW is the first step towards a national scheme, and we look forward to other states coming on board."*

*"These reforms offer the prospect of significantly reduced interstate barriers, while improving consumer protections and safeguarding an independent legal profession."*