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**From:** nicholas O'Neill <oneillpaintingservices@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, 6 August 2018 10:38 AM  
**To:** Policy  
**Subject:** Empowering consumers and small businesses

Who in there right mind in this department thought it would be a good idea to remove licensing for painters and decorators. The dangers that arouse from lead paint and asbestos are to high to allow untrained and unlicenced people to perform these tasks. The amount of Australian homes that contain lead based paint and asbestos is huge and all that is going to happen out of fair trading removing these licence categories is for you to be opening the door for untrained people to perform the work that has to be done to a set standard so as to not allow harmful substances to be exposed to people and the environment. Im amazed that the subject is even being considered. What should be happening is needing a licence for work over \$500 not over \$5000. I dont see why we are going backwards. Victoria has finally woke up and started to make painters get licenses down there as they realise the dangers posed by unlicenced painters. Having a licence gives clients a peace of mind that there tradesman is going to perform there work to a standard and allows them to have an avenue to trace if things do go wrong. I find it ridiculous that we have to have a licence to catch a fish but now you want to remove licensing for trades based services that have the potential to create harm to people and the environment.