



Media Release
11 February 2009

National Shelter urges stimulus package approval

National Shelter Chairperson, Adrian Pisarski, today urged the Coalition, The Greens, Family First and independent Senator Nick Xenophon, to pass the Federal Government's \$42 billion stimulus package.

Mr Pisarski said that social housing has been depleted over the past twelve years, and that the \$6.6 billion expenditure is warranted to stimulate the economy and improve the living conditions of thousands of Australians.

"The problems being addressed now are a result of 12 years of neglect from the Howard Government with regards to affordable housing," Mr Pisarski said.

"This money will rebalance the housing system, will be non-inflationary and will have the advantage of keeping housing prices lower than they otherwise would be.

"We are dealing with the basic problem of low supply, and this package together with the National Affordable Housing Agreement will add significant levels to Australia's housing stock," according to Mr Pisarski.

Mr Pisarski also made a point of discussing the benefits this package will have on employment levels around the country and its ability to alleviate rental market pressure.

"Investment in public and community housing will inevitably reduce pressure placed on renters in the rental market and at last give them some long overdue assistance," Mr Pisarski said.

"In addition to this, more than 15,000 jobs will be created over the next two years. This is a positive investment on all fronts," Mr Pisarski continued.

-Ends-

For further information:

Adrian Pisarski, Chairperson on 0417 975 270

Jasmine McCormack, Communications Officer on 0430 227 787