



NEWS RELEASE
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FOREIGN BUYER LEVY SENDS WRONG MESSAGE

The State Government announcement to increase the tax on foreign home buyers to seven percent was met with great concern by the Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA SA).

UDIA SA Chief Executive Officer Pat Gerace said the justifications for this levy that might apply in other states just do not apply to South Australia.

“We were against this levy when it was announced with the budget earlier this year and learning that the tax on foreign investors is getting even higher is very disappointing,” Mr Gerace said.

“This new announcement reinforces all the wrong messages for investment and is completely at odds with the Government’s other jobs announcements. The reason from the Government for this tax was to keep housing affordable, but the affordability crisis due to a lack of supply interstate hasn’t happened here.”

Mr Gerace went on to say that the increase in the Foreign Investor Levy means more people will choose to invest somewhere else and there will be fewer jobs for locals. “If we are truly open for business we need to be more serious about it. Growth is what we need to focus on and anything that stops it should be avoided.”

“Not having this levy could have been a selling point for people to come to SA, but that opportunity will now be gone.”

ABOUT THE UDIA - Established in 1971, the UDIA (SA) represents the interests of the development industry in South Australia in collaboration with all levels of government. It

represents all sections of the urban development sector, including developers, councils and service providers such as engineers, planners and surveyors.

FURTHER MORE INFORMATION: Please contact UDIA SA Communications Manager, Celeste Lustosa on 0466 519 982 or lustosac@udiasa.com.au