

AUSTRALIAN CONSUMER LAW AND FAIR TRADING ACT 2012

Section 228

PUBLIC WARNING NOTICE

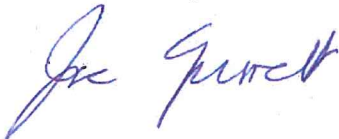
The Minister for Consumer Affairs, Jane Garrett, has issued a Public Warning Notice to consumers about hoverboards, also known as self-balancing scooters, gliders or modboards. These products are two wheeled devices with a single axle. The rider balances on a board above the axle. The device's speed and direction are controlled by subtle shifts of balance by the rider.

The Minister is concerned that hoverboards may adversely affect the interests of consumers who purchase them due to an unacceptable risk of fire or explosions from the charger or battery used to power hoverboards. There have been reports of fires and explosions attributable to hoverboards in the US and Europe, and the Minister is concerned that a recent fire in Melbourne's north-west may be linked to an exploding or overheating hoverboard charger.

Given the number of recent reports which link fires to hoverboards or their chargers, the Minister issues this warning in the public interest. The Minister notes that Energy Safe Victoria has recalled several brands of hoverboards due to concerns that they could cause a fire or electrocute someone due to non-compliant battery chargers. The list of recalled brands can be found at www.recalls.gov.au. This list is being constantly reviewed and updated and should be monitored regularly. Any consumer with a recalled hoverboard should return the product to their retailer for a refund.

Any consumer who owns a hoverboard and is concerned should contact Energy Safe Victoria on 1800 800 158 or Consumer Affairs Victoria on 1300 55 81 81. Consumer are urged to exercise extreme caution when purchasing or using a hoverboard, and any consumers who own a hoverboard are urged to be extremely cautious about charging them unobserved.

Dated: 5 January 2016



Jane Garrett MP

Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming & Liquor Regulation