



The Retailers Association

Serving Members Australia Wide™

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ACTU Argument *Costs* Australian Jobs

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Scott Driscoll, National Executive Director of **The Retailers Association**, has rejected claims today by **ACTU President Sharan Burrow**, that a review of the new “extreme and antiquated” Union backed Federal IR laws was unfounded.

Mr Driscoll has confirmed that a recent survey of his members pointed clearly to the fact the new Rudd Government industrial relations scheme is costing jobs at an alarming rate.

“Via a series of common sense, non-Union jargon questions, I asked my members from across Australia what their reaction has been and their business intentions are, given the new and restrictive Rudd Government IR laws. The results were very disturbing to say the least and the ACTU really needs to get its collective heads out of the sand and join us back on planet Earth, if they are serious about protecting and growing job prospects for Australians,” said Mr Driscoll.

One of the snap poll questions asked of a representative selection of our members from around the country was:

Have the increased costs associated with the new Award and new IR laws discouraged you in any way from hiring new staff in 2010.

85.45% of members responded with a YES.

“With such a massive indicator that their beloved, extreme, Union scripted, IR laws will wipe out job options for their own members, what is the true motivation for the ACTU to be so aggressively wed to these laws? Surely it’s not the new provisions designed to give the Unions a better chance to tout their dwindling membership and line their own pockets with new members fees?” said Mr Driscoll.

“The very recent \$10million or the \$2.5million a few months ago in Rudd Government handouts to Unions to promote the new Rudd Government IR laws may help *take the edge off* for the ACTU too, but at the end of the day, these new extreme IR laws are costing jobs that would otherwise be in Australia today,” said Mr Driscoll.

For further comment contact Scott Driscoll on 0413 831 045.