



United Retail Federation

Serving Members Australia Wide™

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Dole Reduction Would Encourage Workplace Participation in Able Bodied Young People

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Peak national industry body, the *United Retail Federation*, has welcomed the debate on a reduced dole payment to *able bodied young people under 30* who refuse offers of work, in an attempt to encourage them to consider jobs in regional areas.

Scott Driscoll, National President of the United Retail Federation, has come out in support of a national debate on the issue, following the concept being discussed in broad terms at a meeting on Monday night in Western Australia, of mining sector representatives and Opposition Leader, Tony Abbott.

“My members in many cases are struggling to maintain a healthy pool of casual staff, especially in regional parts of Australia. Any move to encourage unemployed young people to explore all employment options, rather than rely on government handouts is a win-win for our community,” Mr Driscoll said.

“As we move out of the economic downturn over the next 12 months, the challenge to find staff will again become a major problem for most employers in most areas, as it was two years ago and prior, pre the GFC.

“I’ve seen the predictable old lines already trotted out by the Union hacks on this concept of reducing dole payments for those young people who can work but refuse to work.

“The Unions need to take a reality check, and start exploring policies that encourage jobs growth and healthy businesses, not just highway robbery cash grabs by the return to antiquated national awards designed to price working Australians out of a job and wreck small business,” Mr Driscoll.

For further comment please call Scott Driscoll on **0413 831 045**.