



**United Retail Federation**

*Serving Members Australia Wide™*

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## Small Business Welcomes Tony Abbott's Budget Reply Measures

*14 May 2010 - Parliament House, Canberra.*

**Scott Driscoll**, National President of the **United Retail Federation**, has welcomed the Opposition Leader Tony Abbott's Budget reply speech last night as the start of a turnaround in the fortunes of small business in Australia.

"I welcome Tony Abbott's pledge to scuttle the **Rudd Super Tax** which is not just a tax on the mining sector, but a tax on the entire economy, including the retail supply chain from the farm gate to the supermarket shelf," Mr Driscoll said.

"This Rudd Super Tax will increase taxes and costs on everything from the fertiliser used to grow food, through to the coal used to run the power stations to produce the power and electricity needed at every point of the supply chain.

"The Rudd Super Tax would be a big new tax on everything and simply must be stopped.

"Tony Abbott's commitment to put on hold, the 30% increase on superannuation payments from business is also a valued measure at a time business is recovering from the Global Financial Crisis.

"I'm very encouraged also to see Tony Abbott talking about bringing back some balance to unfair dismissal laws that have been hanging over the heads of small business since the Rudd IR laws have been inflicted. The Rudd IR laws have cost jobs and forced small business employers to be more restricted in the hiring patterns.

"More responsible government spending and borrowing outlined by Tony Abbott is also something I have been calling on for some time, given the inflationary effects Rudd Government debt and spending levels have been causing. Every one of the last six interest rate rises we have experienced has damaged consumer confidence and cost jobs," Mr Driscoll said.

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