



**United Retail Federation**

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Woolworths Fails to Extend Its Trading Hours Stranglehold

### Driscoll - *“David has defeated Goliath in this attempted cash grab”*

*Friday, 18 June 2010*

The **United Retail Federation**, a peak national industry body representing the small business and retail sectors across Australia, has welcomed the decision by the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission to reject an extension of trading hours application by Woolworths.

**Scott Driscoll**, National President of the *United Retail Federation* said that despite the resistance and inaction of the local Moreton Bay Regional Council, the decision was a win for small business and the entire community.

“The major retail giants launch these applications in a bid to erode local business confidence and competition so the decision is a very welcome one and means local small business will be in good stead to remain viable for the years ahead,” Mr Driscoll said.

“Trading hours applications form part of a premeditated strategy by the retail chains to begin wiping out local small business and competition. Make no mistake these are not, in any way, an innocent request to trade a few more hours, they are dirty cash grabs.

“I applaud all local businesses who chose to stand up to the bully boy tactics of the major retail chains and prevent this extension of trading hours which would

have certainly eroded competition and the viability of local small business in the region

“It was extremely disappointing to see Mayor Alan Sutherland show complete political cowardice and not oppose these attempts to destroy small business and competition in the region.

“The people of Woodford and Caboolture deserve better than a Mayor who dinges out at the first signs of a fight with the retail giants who believe they can buy any decision they wish,” Mr Driscoll said.

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