



United Retail Federation

Serving Members Australia Wide™

MEDIA RELEASE

TELEPHONE: 1300 721 730

FACSIMILE: 1300 554 552

EMAIL:
info@unitedretailfederation.com.au

WEBSITE:
www.unitedretailfederation.com.au

BRISBANE:

Suite 3, 321 Kelvin Grove Road
KELVIN GROVE QLD 4059

PO Box 105
KELVIN GROVE BC QLD 4059

MELBOURNE:

Level 27
101 Collins St
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

SYDNEY:

Level 57
MLC Centre
19-29 Martin Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

ADELAIDE:

Level 24
Westpac House
91 King William St
ADELAIDE SA 5000

PERTH:

Level 28
AMP Tower
140 St Georges Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

ABN: 53 009 660 495

Gillard's Tax Office Gestapo Hangs Small Business out to Dry

Driscoll – “Australia’s taxation system is currently ranked extremely poorly by World Bank/PricewaterhouseCoopers rankings yet Gillard’s Gestapo wants to hang small business”

Thursday, July 8 2010

The **United Retail Federation**, a peak national industry body representing retailers and small business across Australia, has condemned the approach of the Australian Taxation Office in ramping up ‘public hangings’ on small business cash transactions labelling them “the hypocritical Gillard Gestapo”.

Scott Driscoll, National President of the *United Retail Federation*, said that Australia ranked a pitiful 47th on ease of paying taxes, 107th on Total Tax Time and 127th on Total Tax Rate and that both the Gillard government and the Australian Tax Office should look no further than the mirror if they wished to blame anyone for the extremely inefficient and inflexible taxation system that business is expected to comply with and operate within.

“It terms of an efficient taxation system Australia currently trails hundreds of countries such as Canada, Ireland, Hong Kong, Botswana, Croatia, Cyprus and Kuwait,” Mr Driscoll said.

“It is a bit hard to cop Gillard’s Gestapo being sent out to publicly hang small family businesses when Australia’s taxation system efficiency is ranked by the World Bank and PricewaterhouseCoopers to be lower than in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

“Ms Gillard’s refusal to even listen to the concerns of the small business sector has confirmed that she is not interested in this country’s largest collective employer group.

“Ms Gillard’s government should not be demonising small businesses but supporting us, given the jobs created by our sector during the current economic downturn,” Mr Driscoll said.

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***Please see World Bank/PWC World Taxation Rankings here:**
<http://www.doingbusiness.org/features/taxes2010.aspx>

For further comment contact Scott Driscoll on 0413 831 045.