



United Retail Federation

Serving Members Australia Wide™

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Working Australians Worse Off Under Gillard

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The **United Retail Federation**, a peak national industry body representing retailers across Australia, has said that a recent *News Ltd* survey proves small business and retail had suffered so dramatically due to increased cost of living pressures that it will be a “significant umbrella issue” hanging over the next federal election campaign.

Scott Driscoll, National President of the **United Retail Federation**, said that retailers were on ‘struggle street’ and the reckless spending Julia Gillard embarked upon over the term of her Government would go down as one of the largest public policy failures in modern government.

“During the term of this government small business and retailers have been smashed with historic lows in consumer confidence, historic highs in wage pressures and unrealistic industrial relations changes that have caused widespread job cuts and business closures,” Mr Driscoll said.

“Small business and retail are in such a terminal state as a result of the reckless spending embarked upon by Julia Gillard which has wreaked havoc across the entire economy, placing inflationary and financial pressures on every Australian business and worker.

“We’ve had to contend with a brutal series of interest rate rises forced on working Australians as a result of irresponsible wastage courtesy of Ms Gillard.

“Ms Gillard has broken more promises in her first two weeks as Prime Minister than her predecessor Kevin Rudd did in two years. Ranging from the promised tax rate cuts to assist small business funding the forced superannuation changes through to industrial relations changes that were promised not to make any worker or business worse off,” Mr Driscoll said.

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For further comment call Scott Driscoll on 0413 831 045.