



United Retail Federation

Serving Members Australia Wide™

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Stimulus Debate - The True Economic Heroes are Small Business

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Scott Driscoll, National President of the **United Retail Federation**, has today lambasted Julia Gillard's claims that her school halls rip-off was the reason for Australians remaining in work and weathering the Global Financial Crisis.

Mr Driscoll's comments were consistent with those made recently by Reserve Bank Director, Warwick McKibbin and Professor Niall Ferguson from Harvard University amongst other commentators who have sort to correct the record on Ms Gillard's claims about 'saving Australia'.

"The true economic heroes of the GFC are actually those entrepreneurial Australians who operate small businesses everyday and who collectively employ the most Australians," said Mr Driscoll.

"When times are tough it is small business that makes the ultimate sacrifices for the good of their workers and their customers. This means they rarely see their families and miss out on so much that other Australians get to take for granted.

"For Ms Gillard to attempt to take the credit for 'saving Australia', flies in the face of the Auditor-General, expert analysis from respected economists and basic economic credibility.

"It's laughable coming from Ms Gillard, who said in just September last year, and I quote, 'money is going into this program because it is going gangbusters'. This incompetent program had no positive effect apart from inflationary pressures.

"It's about time Ms Gillard gave credit where it is due and that is to the entrepreneurial small business sector who weathered the financial storm and kept the majority of Australian workers in jobs," said Mr Driscoll.

For further comment call Scott Driscoll on 0413 831 045.