



United Retail Federation

Serving Members Australia Wide™

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"Small Business Calls for Real Change in Government"

Driscoll: The Rudd-Gillard Experiment has failed. It's time to genuinely move forward.

23 August 2010

Scott Driscoll, National President of the **United Retail Federation**, a peak national industry body in Australia since 1887 representing independent and small business retailers, has called for genuine renewal and a new direction within the next Australian government.

Following the potential for a hung parliament resulting from the weekend's federal election, Mr Driscoll has welcomed the opportunity for the three genuine Independents Bob Katter, Rob Oakeshott and Tony Windsor, to take a leadership role in ending the uncertainty and hardship faced by small and family owned businesses over the last three years.

"I think these are three men of real substance and their decision to stay with the Labor Government or to move away from what has been a very challenging and disappointing government for small and family owned businesses will be critical and viewed with intense interest by my thousands of members, their families and their staff," said Mr Driscoll.

"The Rudd-Gillard Labor Government has seen epic levels of waste and confidence destroying policies in the eyes of the small business sector. From the Grocery Watch websites that failed to deliver anything but misinformation, competition laws that favour the big end of town, to policies that have driven up the costs of electricity and laws that have added to the cost of food and retail at every point of the supply chain. This Rudd-Gillard Labor Government has left the small business sector in complete despair.

"I intend to make contact over the coming days with Mr Katter, Mr Oakeshott and Mr Windsor and talk with them further regarding the first hand experiences my members and the small business sector at large have experienced at the coal face. Though I know these men are very wired in to their electorates and would be well aware of the disaster that has unfolded over the last three years, I think it's important given the current political landscape that they are assured that this is truly a nationwide problem across all regions.

"Small business is collectively the largest employer of Australians in the country and we simply can't sustain another three years of the same as what we've just had," said Mr Driscoll.

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