



MEDIA RELEASE

DR CRAIG EMERSON

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16 March 2010

OPPOSITION CONFIRMS PRICE HIKES UNDER ITS PARENTAL LEAVE PLAN

Basic foodstuffs will be dearer under the Coalition's parental leave plan, Opposition finance spokesman Barnaby Joyce confirmed today.

Senator Joyce said the Coalition's plan to hit business with a 1.7 per cent company tax increase would increase the cost of bread and milk "in a fashion".

Senator Joyce described the Opposition's \$10.8 billion great big new tax on everything as a "small, modest levy" on business.

Small Business and Consumer Affairs Minister Craig Emerson said the fact that Senator Joyce had described a \$10.8 billion tax increase as "small" should send a shiver down the spine of every Australian consumer.

"There can be no doubt now that this crazy plan will be bad for Australian families who don't want to pay more every time they go to the supermarket, the department store, the petrol station and the bank," Dr Emerson said.

"Coalition leader Tony Abbott, who promised no new taxes, claims business will be happy to absorb his great big new tax in the national interest.

"Mr Abbott wants to slap a \$10.8 billion great big new tax on everything – a tax that will hurt every Australian every time they visit the shops.

"I can hardly believe I am saying this but it seems Senator Joyce is the brains of the outfit – he at least can see that bunging an extra tax on business will hurt everyone because it will flow down the line."

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