



MEDIA RELEASE

DR CRAIG EMERSON

Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy
Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs
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Friday, 21 May 2010

PHONY TONY'S TOUGH LOVE FOR SMALL BUSINESS

The Opposition has not only backflipped and scrapped its solitary small business tax policy, it is also seeking to thwart the Rudd Government's two new tax break policies for small business, the Minister for Small Business, Craig Emerson, said today.

"In the past fortnight, Tony Abbott has shown the sort of tough love to small business that he thinks all Australians deserve", Dr Emerson said.

"Mr Abbott has denied small business thrice – opposing the Government's instant write off of assets costing up to \$5,000, opposing the head-start company tax rate reduction for small business and abandoning its own tax loss carry-back policy".

"The Liberal Party claims to be the party of small business, but all Mr Abbott wants to whack them three times and expect them to respect him for giving them some tough love".

Dr Emerson said that after its announcements, the Liberal Party can never again claim to be the party of small business.

The Government's tax breaks offer tax relief of more than \$1.5 billion to small business in the period of the forward estimates (Overview: Stronger, fairer, simpler – a tax plan for the future, p. 14).

The small business tax breaks are to be funded by revenue from the Resource Super Profits Tax (RSPT), which the Opposition has pledged to oppose and rescind.

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