

MEDIA RELEASE



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RETAILERS CALL FOR FEDERAL BUDGET FOCUS ON THE LOWER PAID, AND SKILLS AND INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

The Australian Retailers' Association (ARA) is Australia's largest and most representative retailer association.

While the ARA believes that next week's Federal Budget should not be over expansionary, it does not suggest this should be achieved by a higher surplus and public sector saving.

David Edwards, ARA Executive Director, said that retailer priorities are to deliver tax cuts to middle and lower income earners, and to help remove supply side road blocks which are restricting growth.

The ARA would like to see the spending capacity of middle and lower income earners increased through personal tax cuts. "The benefits of Australia's high economic growth need to be passed on to low income earners through tax cuts to take the pressure of wages growth and to give them more discretionary spending power", said David Edwards.

Retailers along with other industries are facing the road blocks of skills shortages and poor infrastructure. The ARA is calling for government funding increases to address skills shortage and low infrastructure investment. "A further reduction in corporate taxation would provide more incentives for more private sector investment in infrastructure to facilitate growth", said David Edwards

David Edwards is available for comment on the Federal Budget on budget night.

Contact Details: David Edwards
03 9321 5000
0438 754 756

AUSTRALIAN RETAILERS' ASSOCIATION

104 Franklin Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000
Ph: 03 9321 5000