



THE HON BRUCE BILLSON MP
Shadow Minister for Small Business,
Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs
Federal Member for Dunkley

MEDIA RELEASE

30 September 2010

Small Business not deserving of Cabinet or even a call under Labor

The Gillard Labor Government failed to make the Minister for Small Business a Cabinet appointment and the junior minister has failed to contact key small business organisations since his appointment.

Nearly 3 weeks have passed since the appointment of the junior small business minister and Senator Sherry is yet to contact the Council of Small Business Organisation of Australia (COSBOA) or Independent Contractors Australia (ICA).

COSBOA is the peak body of many respected small business organisations and the Minister's past indifference to small business concerns is continuing despite his new role and responsibilities.

The Minister will not even talk to the ICA about the harm and hardship his Labor Government's tax agenda will inflict on legitimate independent contractors and self employed people.

Perhaps the new Minister doesn't want to face his Labor Government's failings that have seen 300,000 small business jobs lost while the Gillard Government promises only 'more of the same'.

Senator Sherry spearheaded Labor's secret strategy to damage and disadvantage independent contractors through adverse tax changes cooked up by Labor's union overlords via multiple meetings over more than a year while making 'no change' promises and misleading public statements.

I am certain a simple phone call to COSBOA and ICA would reveal to the junior small business minister that advice, insights and advocacy about the concerns and objectives of small business people is best represented by small business representative organisations than his union overlords.

Labor is always keen to get up close and communicate with 'in favour' organisations when it is politically convenient but content to ignore these same organisations when the affection fades.

Key small business organisations would welcome some interest from the Gillard Labor Government and some urgent consultation about the union-inspired harmful plans Labor has been hiding.

Media Contact: Vincent Sheehy 0417 236 109