

Bruce Atkinson

Spokesperson for Small Business,
Sport and Recreation

Parliament House
Spring Street, Melbourne 3002
Tel: 9651 8512 • Fax: 9651 8426
Email: bruce.atkinson@parliament.vic.gov.au



MEDIA RELEASE

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LIBERALS TAKE ACTION TO SAVE SMALL BUSINESS

State Shadow Small Business Spokespeople and Federal Small Business Minister, Fran Bailey met in Canberra on Monday, 14 March to address the issues crippling small businesses nation-wide, as a result of State Labor policies.

I initiated and convened this meeting, which was welcomed by other State Shadows and Fran Bailey, as a valuable partnership in an initiative to save small businesses.

The main issues identified at the Canberra meeting, included reducing red tape, reviewing land tax, skills shortages, promoting a more flexible workplace relations system and minimising cross-border anomalies.

This meeting was a crucial step forward in battling the anti-business Bracks Government and breathing some life into small businesses.

The Bracks Government is choking Victorian small business owners with red tape and slamming them with massive land tax bills, which is forcing many to close or face bankruptcy.

Labor is anti-business and while Steve Bracks continues to “look into it” and “examine” the concerns facing small businesses, the Liberal Party is taking action.

The Liberal Party listens to and understands the problems of small business owners. We have launched a policy – *Cutting Red Tape on Small Business*. We have initiated a discussion to share policy ideas across state borders and to address the unnecessary and prescriptive regulations that are strangling small businesses.

Labor's do nothing attitude will continue to drive new investment out of Victoria, destroy jobs and send people broke.

Steve Bracks should follow the Liberal Party's example and finally do something to help struggling small business owners in Victoria.

Media Contact: Bruce Atkinson on pager 9625 1381