

# Media Release

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**National Tax & Accountants' Association**

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## Rudd Government offers 'Claytons' tax savings!

Tax experts have today scoffed at suggestions by the Treasurer, Mr Wayne Swan, that average Australians will save \$192 as a result of the 'standard deductions' measures foreshadowed in the May 2010 Federal Budget.

In fact, information released by the Australian Taxation Office reveals that the average work-related expense claim by taxpayers is **approximately \$1,920**. This means that average Australians claim substantially more than the 'standard deduction' being proposed under the May 2010 Federal budget, and, therefore, these measures will not offer **any tax relief** for average, honest, hard working Australians.

Andrew Gardiner, Spokesman for the National Tax and Accountants' Association today stated: "I believe that any suggestion by the Federal Treasurer that these measures will result in tax savings for average Australians is at best questionable and, at worst, misleading. This is a classic example of a saving that is "all spin" and no substance."

"The ATO statistics do not lie. Taxation Office statistics make it clear that, on average, Australians claim well above the proposed standard deduction. This means that these measures will offer absolutely no tax relief to the average Australian. In fact, if the average Australian taxpayer were to take advantage of this 'standard deduction' in the first year it's proposed to come into effect, they would **lose** \$1,420 in deductions!"

Andrew Gardiner also stated "This initiative can best be described as a 'Claytons tax saving'. It's the tax saving that you are promoting to average Australians when you are actually not offering them any tax saving at all."

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**Andrew Gardiner, Spokesman for the NTAA**

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