

CUTTING PETROL TAX

Position:

- FAMILY FIRST believes high petrol prices are a huge community concern and burning a hole in the budgets of families and small businesses which are struggling to make ends meet. FAMILY FIRST has been campaigning for lower petrol prices since October 2005 and is the only party with a plan to fix petrol pain;
- FAMILY FIRST believes petrol taxes are unfair taxes because they hit low-income families the hardest. Many of these families have two cars, travel greater distances and have limited, if no, public transport. It is virtually impossible to take the children to after-school music lessons, Saturday morning sport or to visit the grandparents without a car;
- FAMILY FIRST is worried that petrol prices are really hurting family life. Families are being forced to cut back on kids sport and weekend trips to see relatives and friends;
- FAMILY FIRST believes the other parties are out of touch with Australian families and do not understand the impact of crippling petrol prices because they do not pay for petrol themselves so are not affected;
- FAMILY FIRST is disappointed that the Government's only response has been to announce yet another petrol inquiry. Australians do not want any more petrol inquiries; they want action and real relief at the bowser. More than 35 per cent of the price of petrol is government taxes, which is over 50 cents for every litre;
- FAMILY FIRST believes the real reason the Government will not act is because it is drunk on petrol tax and will not admit it.

Actions:

- FAMILY FIRST has long been calling for the Government to use its bumper budget surplus to cut petrol tax by 10 cents a litre. The Prime Minister has stated that this will cost \$2.8 billion which is

affordable. It also keeps inflation and interest rates low which is what we all want;

- FAMILY FIRST has introduced legislation to stop predatory pricing and 'creeping acquisitions' which will help independent petrol retailers to have fair competition with the oil giants, thus leading to the lowest possible petrol prices.