

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

PO Box 6100

Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

Australia

Submission to the Inquiry into the Fair Work Amendment (Small Business-Penalty Rates Exemption) Bill 2012

I am a permanent employee, working as a EN, currently earning around \$26 per hour.

I am a married women with a husband and two teenage sons, one of whom is still at school the other in seasonal work.

If penalty rates were abolished... my fortnightly pay would be reduced by at least - \$350, double that if I work both weekends- with the cost of living rising my pay will not cover basic costs of raising a family

My weekends are important to me because...with two teenage sons and a husband who manages a service station weekends are a time we have together to catch up with family and friends. Penalty rates compensate for those who miss out by being rostered on weekends

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. Without penalty rates my wage will drop dramatically, will it be worth giving up my time for no extra pay, or is this what the government wants so people give up work and then they can employ foreigners at a cheaper rate of pay. It is time the government started looking after Australians. Are they prepared to give up their entitlements - travel allowance etc. no I didnt think so.

Submitted by

Janice LEwis

Tuesday 25th of September 2012