

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 Registered Nurse, currently earning around \$38.41 per hour.

I am single with a mortgage. I am also an injured nurse who is no longer allowed to work weekends which has made it very difficult for me to make ends meet.

If penalty rates were abolished a lot of other people would be in my shoes of not being able to pay their bills. Penalty rates are one of the only bright spots when it comes to wages for nurses as our base rates are not very attractive.

My weekends are important to me because they are time for me and my family.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. If we don't we are going to lose a lot

more nurses than we are already. Why work on a weekend when you only get a base rate!!!

Submitted by

Jennifer Clarke

Saturday 29th of September 2012