

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 trades assistant, currently earning around 16 per hour.

I work shiftwork and I am on permanent afternoon shift 5 days a week, Monday to Friday. My hours of work are 4 pm to midnight.

If penalty rates were abolished, I would suffer a great deal of financial hardship. My shift allowance is all that makes my wage liveable.

If I have to work weekends, I don't get the time that I need to recharge my batteries and it takes a lot out of me. If I have to suffer that, I expect a reasonable amount of compensation. I also don't get time with my family and it is difficult to catch up with them as it is, with working permanent afternoon shift.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. Make my life bearable.

Submitted by

Paul Lemist

Thursday 20th of September 2012