

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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Australia

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

I am a casual employee, working as a waitress, currently earning around 20 per hour.

I am a student studying full time.

If penalty rates were abolished I would have to work four shifts per week instead of two, this would include working night shifts when I am already studying full time. This would greatly impact on my ability to study full time and live.

My weekends are important to me because it is time I would like to spend with family or friends, I currently work weekends because I am forced to as I study full time. I feel penalty rates for weekends are just as hospitality workers are sacrificing their family and social times for work.

It is hugely important to me that workers are paid weekend penalty rates. To not do this creates different classes of workers - those who have the privilege of full time employment, with all the perks - and casual workers or low income workers who under this bill will be forced to give up their weekends with no extra pay.

Submitted by

Catherine Story

Thursday 20th of September 2012