

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 800 per week.

Family of five (three children 13,15,17) Eldest is about to start Uni next year. We have a mortgage and travel expenses as we live rurally. I am not studying because I need to help support my family

If penalty rates were abolished... My partner or I would have to increase work hours, We would have less family time . My partner works shift work , he is more likely to get sick, he is irritable when he finishes his night shifts or a run of 6days

My weekends are important to me because... It is family time. Time to see relatives and friends. It is hard to have consistent activities but weekends are a time when most

people can arrange to have time together. I often attend events on my own because my partner is working - but we are being repaid in penalty rates

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. There will be less incentive to do shifts and weekends. In terms of nurses - many of my colleagues have stated that they will look for alternative work if this occurs.

Submitted by

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