

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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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 stevedore, currently earning around 35 per hour.

Yes I do have a family that enjoys going to weekend sport especially afl and also my local suburban football club when not rostered to work on weekends.

If penalty rates were abolished my weekly income would reduce by approximately 30 to 40%. My employer has factored in the cost of penalties in the charges that they levy the client. I am certain that they will not reduce charges if they do not pay me penalties.

My weekends are important to me because this is the time of the week that the vast majority of recreational activity in the broader community is organised and it also coincides with my wifes time off work and my adult children.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates as it encourages employers to roster as many workers off on weekends as possible. Historically penalty rates were introduced to reward workers for making themselves available to work in the anti social hours off every day.

Submitted by

Andrew Mahar

Saturday 15th of September 2012