

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 EEN, currently earning around 22.00 per hour.

I have mortgage, raised 2 children, work frequent weekends as younger people are involved with their young family's commitment to sport or hobbies etc. I also like to enjoy my sport & hobbies, which are held on weekends.

If penalty rates were abolished I would be greatly affected because I would never get any weekends off - as no-one is prepare to sacrifice the weekend or evenings now (even with penaly rates) so their would be no staff available. Also the loss of income would effect me greatly and I would not have any incentive to do these days.

My weekends are important to me because it is the only time I can visit my son, who

lives 4 hours away and only has weekends free. I also compete in my sport and these competition days are held on weekends. I can no longer participate as a judge at these competitions due to work commitments.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates, not only to encourage people to work in an industry that is very hard work but also to ensure there is enough staff available to meet the needs.

Submitted by

Isabelle Hughes

Wednesday 26th of September 2012