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 casual employee, working as a nurse, currently earning around 25 per hour.

Hi Folks,

I have two school-age children and a mother who I care for full time.

Unlike many nurses I also work as a web designer part-time and so I am able to earn a living from either web design (when I need to work from home due to kids/mother), or from nursing which while not as well paid, is more fulfilling personally.

I currently receive penalty rates for weekend/holiday/night work and believe that people working these hours should be compensated for missing out on the time with their friends and family that everyone else takes for granted.

It's the weekend. I have kids. What's left to say.

This issue is important to me because I see it as a lack of respect which creates division in our community.

This government appears to keep wishing to drive down the wages/conditions of folks who are typically earning on the lower end of the scale.

If there's an issue with the budget or you wish to prop up business, introduce consistent cuts across the public sector including your own conditions.

I'm willing to accept any changes to my working conditions that you are...

Submitted by

Stuart McKiernan

Friday 28th of September 2012