

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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

I believe that penalty rates are an important recognition of the value we place on people willing to work at weekends so that we may enjoy activities and experiences with family and friends. I believe that in Australian society today the weekend is still a very important part of our culture and gives family and friends the opportunity to socialise together when most of them are not at work. As we need some people to work to enable us to enjoy going shopping and out to eat etc there should be some financial reward to those willing to sacrifice some of their weekend to work and staff the shops, cafes restaurants etc. Young people are often the ones rostered on at the weekend and I believe that penalty rates give them incentive to gain valuable life skills and work experience by working part time while studying.

Submitted by

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