



19 September 2012

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on
Education, Employment and
Workplace Relations
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Dear Committee Secretary

Fair Work Amendment (Small Business Penalty Rate Exemption) Bill 2012

I have a small business employing less than twenty full time equivalent employees.

I wish to provide my full support for the passage of this Bill through Parliament as my labour costs have blown out since the introduction of the Restaurant Industry Award regulating wages and penalty rates. Accordingly I have cut back staff hours and employed less senior staff.

If penalty rates were abolished not only would my business be more viable on weekends I would employ more staff and open longer hours.

People expect us to be open every day and night yet this can only be achieved if it is commercially viable to trade through de-regulation of the mandatory penalty rates applied under the Modern Industrial Award system.

Yours faithfully

Jeanine Berry
Franchisee
The Coffee Club - Sandgate