

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 Librarian, currently earning around 30 per hour.

I am an ex blue collar worker who has had a number of jobs and put myself through TAFE then uni.

Currently I am a delegate for the ASU in my workplace and a committed advocate to preserve and protect worker's rights such as penalty rates which have been hard fought for rights that are now in danger of being fritted away by poorly informed elected people like xenophon who have vested interests in supporting his limited constituency to the cost of the majority of workers.

If penalty rates were abolished...

Many of the members of the ASU at my workplace are casual employees that rely on

penalty rates. The casualisation of the workforce makes the effect of the abolishing of penalty rates have a large impact on the country as a whole and in my sector (libraries) particularlry.

It would mean the margin between a fair and equitable wage and being a wage slave is lessened. Do not let this bill pass and stop the erosion of worker's rights in our great country!

My weekends are important to me because...

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates.

Submitted by

Tony Brooks

Wednesday 19th of September 2012