

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 permanent employee, working as a wine maker and cellar door operator, currently earning around 12,000 per year.

I am a self employed wine maker and cellar door operator. I work both during the week and most weekends. I have strong family values, I have 3 children of my own and 5 grandchildren.

If penalty rates were abolished I feel that it would effect the way our society functions, the weekends and evenings are a crucial family time and it would be wrong to make all days the same.

My grandchildren all play sport on the weekends and it is important that their parents can be involved in community activities. Also if we do not protect weekends others who

are involved now may drop away and the whole fabric of those activities will be weakened.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. I firmly believe that if there is a demand for shopping and other services to operate on the weekends and late nights then those who want them should be prepared to pay a little more. Allow businesses to increase their charges when operating at these times, or simply shut and become part of the community again.

Submitted by

Goeffrey Kearney

Thursday 13th of September 2012