

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 nurse, currently earning around 39 per hour.

Family of four. I am the main income. We have a mortgage.

My family could not cope with bills if my income was reduced by such a significant amount. I work in intensive care in a high stress area. If I did not get penalties for my effort it would seriously make me think about a different job. Imagine working night shift for no extra reward, no incentive. Who would do it?

My weekends are important to me because I have school age children who hate it when I go to work. I only do the weekends for the extra money as it has a great impact on me....

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates as I feel there is very little incentive to do shift work at all except for penalties. It has no positive points.

Submitted by

Nora Walker

Tuesday 25th of September 2012