

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 merchant seaman, currently earning around 90,000 per year.

Married, no children, single income, mortgage.

If penalty rates were abolished... it would be an absolute disgrace for all working people in this country and actually affect the productivity of some businesses as employees wont want to work extra hours for no reward. Especially on weekends.

My weekends are important to me because...its my time not the bosses, if they want people to work then they should be paid penalty rates for giving up there weekends.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. Lowering workers wages by stopping

penalty rates you will lower the standard of the workforce and the pride people will take in there jobs. This is a cost that has always been handed on to the consumer or customer and never been a problem in the past. Will taking weekend penalty rates away bring the cost of things down for the customer/consumer? I think not! Just leave this alone it has no benefit to anyone.

Submitted by

shane oliver

Monday 17th of September 2012