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 registered nurse, currently earning around 30 per hour.

I currently have a mortgage, saving for a wedding and planning on starting a family next year. I work full time in a perioperative unit in which i love.

If penalty rates were abolished... i would refuse to work weekends and afternoon shifts, and i would refuse to do on call shifts where i sometimes work over 16hrs until all hours of the morning. I would get a dramatic drop in pay which would affect me from paying my mortgage and starting a family. People will not work these hours while ordinary people stay at home with their families on a base rate.

My weekends are important to me because...we catch up with family every weekend,

and usually we need to travel to sydney to do so.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates because no one will work the hours without penalty rate as it is not worth their while missing out on family events and spending quality time with their children.

Submitted by

Simone Davis

Tuesday 25th of September 2012