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 casual employee, working as a RN, currently earning around \$32 per hour.

I am a mum of one and about to have baby number two in the next month.

If penalty rates were abolished I would not be able to be the devoted parent to my children as I would like to be, I plan to go back to work after my baby is around 6 months old and to work every second weekend if possible. I would have to work more hours to earn the same wage and therefore less time spent with my children and husband.

My weekends are important to me because my husband works a monday to friday job and my 5 year-old is at school during the week so weekends are very important for family bonding time!

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates! If they take away our penalty rates nurses will refuse to work these evening/night and weekend shifts as they value these times as their own. If they are not getting anything extra for working these times then I, amongst many others, will not see the point in working them!

Submitted by
Nicola Young
Tuesday 25th of September 2012