

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 clerk, currently earning around 32.59 per hour.

I am a married mother of two children with a mortgage.

If penalty rates were abolished... Many times we need to work evenings and weekends due to the high volume of work especially in Term 1 every year. I am away from the children and will not be paid correctly. My husband is also a public servant in the health system and works most Sundays due to a Rostering system and he will be away from our family and not be paid correctly for this day. We rely on this to pay for bills as registered nurses are not paid very well and they rely on their penalty rates.

My weekends are important to me because we can spend time with our children and

catch up with family and friends. My husband coaches my son's soccer team which is very important to my son and my husband.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates as our family heavily rely on this income to meet our family rising costs involved with running our household. Due to Catholic Schools fees increasing in the near future we will even need this income even more.

Submitted by

Diane Ireland

Wednesday 26th of September 2012