

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 casual employee, working as a fork lift driver, currently earning around \$23 per hour.

I have 2 kids and on going bills like most others, so time spent with the girls is of the utmost importance to me.

If penalty rates were abolished... I would be very unlikely to work on a weekend. Currently, I'll do it because the extra money compensates me for the time spent away from my family, and gives me a chance to either catch up, or get ahead financially.

My weekends are important to me because... this is the time that I get to spend GOOD time with my girls, to watch them playing sport, and to play sport myself. These are also times that we can catch up with our families and extended families and friends.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. As I mentioned earlier, working weekends is only something I do for the money. Penalty rates are an effective compensatory tool for sacrificing family and social time, that rewards workers whose lives are penalised by anti social, and anti family hours.

Submitted by

Stephen Evans

Sunday 16th of September 2012