

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 employee, working as a RN , currently earning around \$37.00 per hour.

I have a mortgage and I am the sole income earner with what is described as a low income by my tax agent.

If penalty rates were abolished... I would not have the ability to have a reasonable standard of living if I elected to work penalty shifts.

My weekends are important to me because...as a nurse you are often expected to rotate hours of work which includes W/Ends and Nights which after 25 years in this profession can be very difficult and physically exhausting to maintain.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. If the rates were abolished the standard of

care and retention rates for Nurses would be threatened and who would want to do the role we do for even less incentive.

Submitted by

Gerard Oomen

Tuesday 25th of September 2012