

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 permanent employee, working as a NUM, currently earning around 50 per hour.

my kids work and the penalty rates makes them able to work whilst studying at uni and being able to provide partly for themselves instead of being completely dependent. It still gives them time to study and pass their subjects.

The staff I manage would not be motivated to work weekends or shifts, without penalty rates.

especially nights. I certainly would NOT work nights, weekends or public holidays without penalties.

If penalty rates were abolished the staffing in 24 hour services would be untenable, and the community at large would be the ultimate victims as essential services and some social/leisure services would be severely compromised or disappear completely.

My weekends are important to me because family and friends revolve around weekend activities, Sporting and leisure events occur on weekends. It is a cultural issue. We are not a third world country.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. The essential services for this country will have to function with even less resources than we currently have. Who wants to be a nurse/ambo/police to be abused by patients/clients regularly, have their physical health ravaged by the constant wear and tear the profession inflicts on them, work unhealthy shifts that go against our natural circadian rhythms and no financial incentives to put up with that! The government must be kidding themselves!

Submitted by

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