

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 midwife, currently earning around \$36 per hour.

I have just changed my work hours to include a night shift for the penalty rates so that I can drop 2 day shifts, saving on before & after school care & being able to care for my own child

If penalty rates were abolished... I would need to work more to earn the same & this means less time with my school aged child & increases in child care fees.

My weekends are important to me because...they are the only time when there is no work for either of us & we get time together as a family. If you have to work, there should be compensation for time away from family so penalty rates need to stay.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. These help families be more flexible in their jobs, helping them be more available to their children.

Submitted by

jennifer short

Wednesday 26th of September 2012