

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 merchant seaman, currently earning around 110,000 per year.

I am looking at having a family shortly but with the high costs of housing in Perth and my future wife at University I can not see it happening in the near future

I do not receive penalty rates in my job but i do get payed relatively well. Yet even with my decent wage i still struggle to survive. I can not possibly see how people on minimum wage could ever survive without penalty rates.

Because of the nature of my job I miss out on a many number of family commitments and special events. If you now force the average family to give up thier weekends for no extra pay you will see many more breakups and the begining of our whole lifestyle

breakdown.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. Without these rates many families will not survive financially. All you will be doing is putting the pressure back on to the government to subsidise minimum wage earners.

Submitted by

Shane Van Heusden

Monday 17th of September 2012