

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 industrial officer, currently earning around 30.00 per hour.

I am a male who has been married for 25 years and we have three children, our daughter 19 who is studying and works casual. We have twin boys who are 18 currently completing their HSC both boys also work casual jobs.

If penalty rates were abolished... Our children would lose enormous amopunts of their income. As they only get approximately 5-10 hours a week.

My weekends are important to me because it is a time to catch up with family and friends particularly given that my children work most weekends the weekend they don't work we ensure that we do things together.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates so that our children can earn a reasonable income. Retailers and business who operate on weekends and irregular hours (afternoon shifts and Night shifts) often only pay young children and students the minimum award wage. By abolishing these award entitlements will only drive young workers wages down even further.

My children have just recently got their licence and have bought cars the regulatory system discriminates against our youth by increasing the cost for registration and insurance by 2-3 times what an adult or mature person has to pay. how can our children afford to pay these if this committee agrees to lower the award provisions. LEAVE OUR PENALTY RATES ALONE, it is sad that Mr Xenophon can drive such a bill through parliament. It is clear that senator Xenophon has very little empathy and understanding for the working class and our youth.

Submitted by

Clinton Lewin

Monday 17th of September 2012