

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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Australia

Submission to the Inquiry into the Fair Work Amendment (Small Business-Penalty Rates Exemption) Bill 2012

I am writing to support the maintenance of penalty rates for all employees who work on weekends and public holidays.

There is nothing to say that a business must open on weekends or public holidays - they choose to do it simply because it is an opportunity to make more money. It is only fair that they share some of this additional money with the people who work for them. If it is too expensive for a business to do this, they do not have to open on weekends or public holidays.

In this era of having to have two incomes to support a family, it is becoming increasingly difficult for families to spend time together. Weekends ensure that there are two days a week when both parents plus the children are all available to spend time together. If all days were equal, Dad might have a break of Monday and Tuesday,

Mum on Wednesday and Thursday, and the kids on Saturday and Sunday - what would this mean for the family doing something together?

Submitted by

Jonathan Vincent

Thursday 13th of September 2012