

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 employee, working as a Nurse, currently earning around \$40 per hour.

I am approach retiring age and have a mortgage and grandchildren.

Also as someone who would like to reduce hours and work parttime the option of penalty rates would enable me to continue to meet financial committments.

I don't get penalty rates myself as my role is M - F but if there were no penalty rates I could be asked to work 7 days rotating as patient access would be better on weekends. This would have significant impact on time spent with my family.

My weekends are important to me because I can see my children who work during the week and and also my grandchildren who are at school during the week.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. By making no distinction between weekdays and weekends it minimises the opportunity for special events and family occasions. Every day is the same - rather than making weekends significant.

Submitted by

Jenny Douglas

Tuesday 25th of September 2012