

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 Carer, currently earning around \$21 per hour.

I work night shift in aged care, my partner works day shift in the retail sector. We have 2 daughters, a mortgage, car payments, electricity, phone and water to pay.

If penalty rates were abolished... I would be 15 to 25% worse off each fortnight. I work night shift, public holidays and some weekends

My weekends are important to me because...I miss out on a social life. Working night shift is anti-social at the best of times. I have little sleep as I have to try sleep of a day. I can't watch football games and go out of a night and socialize. I miss time with my family of a weekend especially. I have missed out on many events because of this.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. Why should I give up my nights and weekends for the same pay rate as day shift. I would be sacrificing more family time as I would have to work an extra 2-3 shifts a fortnight to cover the loss in wages, meaning I would be lucky to get two days off every fortnight. I would lose my house, my car and wouldn't be able to properly provide for my family. NOT FAIR Senator Xenophon. Think of the workers who give up their weekends and nights to look after the needs of others and could be at risk of losing it all. And the ramifications on those people and their families. We should all be properly compensated for working these unsociable hours - weekends and night shift.

Submitted by

Kristy Youd

Tuesday 18th of September 2012