

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 professional, currently earning around plenty per hour.

While I do not receive penalty rates I see young people struggling to make ends meet on meagre wages. Students with rent to pay and increasing costs for tuition and other expenses. I have a daughter in this situation.

If penalty rates were abolished many people who are already coping with low wages and limited hours will struggle further. Imagine having to get to work at night with limited transport options. Sometimes a taxi is the only option.

My weekends are important to me because traditionally Australians use that time to relax, socialise and do the things necessary to keep individuals and communities

healthy.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. If you are so committed to this get yourself a casual job in a restaurant for a couple of months and try and live on the proceeds. In the second month do your calculations on the basis of no- penalty rates. You won't have change in your pocket. Be fair to people please.

Submitted by

Doug Reckord

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