

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 permanent employee, working as a Teacher, currently earning around \$90,000 per year.

I have worked all my life and am nearing retirement.

If penalty rates were abolished I would personally not be worse off, but those less fortunate than I would be penalised. Weekends are times when traditional family activities are scheduled. Cutting penalty rates would enable employers to pressure parents to work at the expense of family activity without paying compensation. If we wish to be able to shop, dine, be entertained or cared for at weekends, we should be prepared to pay for the privilege.

My weekends are important to me because they allow me to spend time with my family

and friends. It is a traditional part of the Australian way of life.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates.

Submitted by

Colin burke

Tuesday 25th of September 2012