

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 midwife, currently earning around \$38.00 per hour.

I am a mother of 2 daughters and have a grandchild on the way. My husband and I have a mortgage and we currently care for my aged mother.

If penalty rates were abolished... I would probable work less weekend shift- (as a midwife I self roster) because both my daughters work monday to friday.

I estimate my wage would drop approx \$900 per fortnight depending on what worked

My weekends are important to me because...

*Our daughter work in mon-Fri Employment and not working at weekends would make it much easier to catch up

* I frequently miss family get-togethers and Birthday parties because of working commitments.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates.

Until such time as: I can mow my lawn and use louder garden machinery 24/7

until I can send my children to school when I work

until I can go to a bank or local member's office 24/7

these are just a few of the inconveniencies I have had to overcome and if the system is to change in favour of lost penalty rates , I believe it should go the entire distance and not just to benefit the few. Please remember Us in this fight!

Submitted by

Lea MacDonald

Thursday 4th of October 2012