

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 Generalist Community Nurse, currently earning around 39.5 per hour.

I have a husband, 3 children, 2 I am supporting at university as living in a rural area they have to leave home. One child is still at school. I have a mortgage and have just enrolled in a correspondence course.

If penalty rates were abolished...I would lose money when I work a weekend and be on call for Palliative care services on the weekends. I would lose approximately 2,000 a year.

My weekends are important to me because...I enjoy my family life and work limits my time with my children in their sports etc.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates as I believe nurses perform lifesaving activities that go beyond just caring and I believe nurses should be paid accordingly.

Submitted by

Narelle Zappas

Friday 28th of September 2012