

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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Canberra ACT 2600

Australia

## Submission to the Inquiry into the Fair Work Amendment (Small Business-Penalty Rates Exemption) Bill 2012

My niece is a full time university student and in her third year. To attend Wollongong University, as her only option to take up the course that not only is her heartfelt choice and will produce another highly qualified, professional and gifted member of this country, whose gifts will contribute not only to this country's society but to the world. Attending this University has required her to leave home and relocate to Wollongong. Not only is she studying fulltime, she also works nights and weekends in the retail and hospitality industries, essentially to pay her rent and make ends meet.

Are you proposing to jeopardise this? Yes, clearly you are with a proposal to reduce weekend penalty rates.

Have you actually thought about the long term effects on the thousands of students in this country who are in a similar position to my niece?

A very short sighted solution which will eventuate in drastic short term effects on the lives of thousands of young people effectively disabling them from pursuing some of the glories that you purport this country has to offer and yes, what would the long term look like without these talented, passionate and qualified people?

While my neice studies full time and works part time to support herself and her dreams, she has recently been accepted by NIDA to participate in a six months part time course.

Naturally, her attendance in this would be unthinkable without sufficient funds, which are sourced by her part time work in the retail and hospitality industries.

The rationale of your proposal to disable the budding talents and stars and passionate contributors to our country's future is what.. to save a few bucks in the short term?

Curious as to whom would be saving the few bucks also?

Are any of your children working part time in the retail and hospitality industries and supporting themselves to purse their dreams?

If they were, would that make a difference to your proposal?

Open your minds, see the bigger picture... it's called planning

Helen Sheehan

Submitted by

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