

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 RN, currently earning around \$39 per hour.

I am the only person in our household of 2 adults and three children. My husband has a lot of health problems and will not work ever again. I have a mortgage and pay all the bills.

If penalty rates were abolished... it would be devastating as a lot of people depend on the penalty rates that they get paid to survive to make ends meet. My pay would reduce by at least \$300 to \$400 a week. There would not be enough money to survive without penalty rates. I don't think that the penalty rate times should be moved.

My weekends are important to me because...that is when my kids play sport and it is sometimes the only time I get to see them. I have missed out on important sporting

events that my children have been involved in because i was working.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. This is very important to the livelihood of all workers involved. Workers will not want to give up their weekends if they are going to get a flat rate and no penalties for working.

Submitted by

Deidre Guthrie

Friday 28th of September 2012