

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 \$39.90 per hour.

I am a mother of three children with mortgage commitments. At the moment I work part time (64 hours per fortnight).

If penalty rates were abolished I would find that my pay would be reduced and I would probably have to work full time to manage. I would see even less of my school age children. If night duty penalties were abolished there would be no compensation for the added real health risks to those people who have to work night shifts

My weekends are important to me because it is the time that I can see my family and spend time with them. If I am away from them, at least at the moment, I am

compensated financially.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates for people who do have to work at weekends to compensate them for the time that they miss being with family.

Our hospital would be very difficult to staff if there were no incentive for people to earn a little extra by working weekends.

I write to you in support of those people who have to work weekends in restaurants, catering and retail as all workers should have the right to penalty rates

Submitted by

Helen Grzazek

Tuesday 25th of September 2012