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 reg nurse, currently earning around 38.00 per hour.

i have three children one with a severe disability my husband and i are both reg nurses working shifts to be there for our children we have a mortgage and fear we will need to provide for our daughter for the rest of her life

If penalty rates were abolished... it would reduce our income greatly by about \$500 a fortnight for both of us as we both work weekends and evening this would make making enough to cope more difficult so we would need to increase how often we work which would but more stress on our marriage forcing us to put my daughter into care as we would no longer be able to juggle shift to accommodate her then she will be your problem

My weekends are important to me because...i spend time with friends and my children my husband and i only spend 1 to 2 evenings together a week why should that not be compensated

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates as it will be impossible to staff the hospitals after hours and on weekends without compensation for working anti social hours. its hard enough to staff now with overtime being offered most days were we work, would you give up your social life for no financial gain.

Submitted by

eleanor lord

Tuesday 25th of September 2012