

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 workplace trainer, currently earning around \$30 per hour.

I am a registered nurse. I currently am in a salaried position so penalty rates do not impact me personally right now. However I have worked previously on a 24/7 rotating roster.

If penalty rates were abolished it will directly impact the quality of life for 1000's of workers including the nurses who are primary care givers around the clock in our hospitals. Having personal experience of 24 hours rotating rostering, there MUST be compensation in the form of penalty rates to give incentive to shift workers.

My weekends are important to me because they enable me to be connected to my

church community and social networks. As a single person it is important to me to be able to maintain regular contact with friends and family who are busy with work/ school during the week.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates.

Submitted by

Katrina Weir

Tuesday 25th of September 2012