

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

Dear All,

People who work shifts at times do so out of necessity and need. The shifts could be on weekends, nights and afternoons. The business who run those shifts require workers and it is only fair that those workers receive some type of compensation.

Many shift workers forgo time with their family and home life to bring in that wage to keep their households together, pay the mortgage, keep food on the table, send the kids to school, pay the bills etc.

Please dont completely rip a huge whole into those workers lives by stripping back penalties as for many it may be the final straw in keeping their family together.

Senator have you ever in your life worked a weekend a Saturday or Sunday or maybe an afternoon shift or night shift as part of your regular hours??

I was a shift worker for 13 years so I know what I am talking about.

A review maybe required, but by completely removing all penalties is going to far. Do we want Australia workers to become dependant on "tips" and low wages similiar to America?

Hands off penalties please!

Submitted by

Michelle Mackintosh

Tuesday 25th of September 2012