

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 nurse, currently earning around 38 per hour.

I have 2 teenage children and a mortgage

If penalty rates were abolished I would be financially worse off as I currently work Sundays. I like many other nurses miss out on social functions and my kids activities because of my job. It is unfair that there is no compensation for having to work weekends. Without penalty rates my income would reduce by about \$200 dollars a week.

My weekends are important to me because it is an opportunity to enhance my earnings and to pay off my mortgage. I sacrifice Sundays so that my family can be better off.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. Without them a majority of nurses will leave the profession or work Monday to Friday leaving hospitals understaffed on weekends. I will certainly not work weekends without the compensation that penalty rate provide.

Submitted by

terry head

Tuesday 25th of September 2012