

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

Australia

Submission to the Inquiry into the Fair Work Amendment (Small Business-Penalty Rates Exemption) Bill 2012

To the Senate Committee;

My family and I have recently moved from the coast where i worked for many years in the hospitality industry. In a town of high unemployment and seasonal tourism it is really important that workers are protected in the workplace, that penalty rates are not eroded and that correct rates of pay and superannuation payments are made. My experience was that employers set their own rates of pay and i found people tolerated this because of the number of people looking for work and their fear of recrimination. It's very important that people working in the hospitality industry are protected from having their wages further eroded and that penalty rates are deserved when the hospitality industry is designed to serve people out of normal working hours. Shift work has impacts on family life and support and increases the risk of accidents, people need to be adequately recompensed for working under these conditions by the maintenance of their penalty rates.

Regards,
S. Forsyth

Submitted by
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Wednesday 19th of September 2012