

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 PAL operator, currently earning around 1000 per week.

I have a family, pets and a mortgage

If penalty rates were abolished I would struggle to pay my mortgage, pay bills and buy food. I have already cut back in all areas possible regarding food / bills etc with everything increasing in price there is no way I would be able to continue my current life style and would most likely loose my home.

My weekends are important to me because I spend time with my family and friends. When I work on weekends I've often missed special occasions, spending time with family and friends and general activities.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates!!! The general discussion around my work place is we will leave if rates are cut, we work in a highly stressful environment and without the penalties that come with working at a business that is open 24/7 myself and others would be better off on a 9 till 5 job. Look after your employees. Those working weekends / nights should get the money to compensate for everything they miss out on. Unless you have been a shift worker you have no idea how much it impacts on your life!!!

Submitted by

Sherry Brown

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